

HOME NEWS

Chancellor's policy comes under fire from friend and foe

By Our Political Staff

The Government's economic policy came under attack from both its enemies and its supporters yesterday as pressures surrounded the Chancellor to be more explicit on public borrowing needs.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that Mr Healey's continuing refusal to face the facts was the cruelest folly of all. And on the Labour flank came a demand from Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Public Transport Users' Association, for a more explicit public borrowing needs.

Criticizing the Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey told a Young Conservatives conference in Sidcup: "The longer Mr Healey continues with his cruel deception that the public spending is under control, the higher will be the eventual peak of unemployment."

It was cruel folly for Mr Healey to pretend he was controlling his budget deficit in the same way as other countries, for public spending in Britain was taking so large a share of the nation's resources that the problem was of quite a different order.

"The harsh truth is that public spending is out of control," Sir Geoffrey said. "It is Mr Healey's failure to control his colleagues' spending programmes that is now a principal cause of Britain's difficulties. This failure is fuelling the flames of future inflation."

Mr Healey, speaking at Cambridge on Saturday, said it would be cruel folly to slash public spending when unemployment was still rising and private spending was falling. "In a recession, the public sector deficit is bound to rise," he said. "More unemployment benefit has to be paid out and less tax is coming in. We can see this all over the world, not just in Britain."

Cabinet to see party NEC after the Queen's Speech

By Our Political Staff

Cabinet ministers are to meet Labour's national executive, the party's policy-making body, on November 26, a week after the Queen's Speech and the opening of the new session of Parliament.

There are competing versions of what the meeting will be like. Some sources suggest it will be on the initiative of the Prime Minister, others that the request came from Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the party.

Either way, it is unusual to have a joint meeting of such a time and it suggests that ministers believe it is in their interests to allow national executive members an early opportunity to vent their criticism at any omissions from the legislative programme, or that the national executive is in a mood to voice its disappointment to the Government.

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"The Tory policy of putting cash limits on every area of public spending means cutting unemployment benefits if unemployment rises and cutting old age pensions if people live longer. But the Government can and will apply cash limits to programmes which do not depend on such factors."

"As recovery comes, we can and must cut our public sector deficit or there will be no room for the new investment on which the future of our economy desperately depends. But that is a very different thing from massive and indiscriminate cuts in public expenditure today."

Mr Hayward, who was speaking at the annual conference of the London Co-operative Society political committee, said: "The nation cannot afford the waste and misery of unemployment, or the Thatcherite Toryism which will follow our defeat."

A call to businessmen to speak up for private enterprise was made by Mr Michael Heseltine, Opposition spokesman on industry, at Sidcup, Kent. Responsibility for the problems of British capitalism rested with the attitudes of its friends rather than its enemies, he said. Capitalism would flourish only if capitalists took upon themselves the task of protecting the economic system.

There was a vast network of employers' federations, trade associations and chambers of commerce, and if those organizations seriously directed their energy to political ends rather than just to their own interests, their impact would be formidable.

"While virtually every other interest has become organized and articulate, only now are we beginning to see those who exercise a crucial economic power in a capitalist economy—the self-employed, the small businessman, the industrial manager—starting to recognize the consequences that have flowed from the abdication of political power and responsibility."

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Murder charge

Five youths are to appear at Glasgow Sheriff Court today charged with the murder of Mr John Ewart, aged 36, of White Street, Partick, Glasgow, who was found dying with stab wounds on the platform of Kelvinbridge Underground station.

Rescuer aged 70

Mr Noel Kirkby, aged 70, a retired policeman, of Shadwell Road, Portsmouth, was treated for exposure yesterday after diving into the sea to rescue a canoeist, aged 12, who capsized 100 yards offshore at Southsea.

The closure, due to be phased over six months beginning on November 28, is causing great concern among the fans of the club, who are worried that the stadium will be too small to accommodate the club's growing popularity.

A deputisation is requesting a meeting with Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, and Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, and the Government will arrange the date for setting up a workers' cooperative at the factory. The cooperative would need Government money to begin, and the deputisation will also ask for a 25 per cent reduction in the project's cost.

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Mr Prentice to see inquiry team tomorrow

By Michael Hatfield

Political Staff

The battle of Mr Reg Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, to overthrow the decision of the management committee at Newham, North-East, to dismiss him as the constituency Labour MP at the next election enters a crucial phase tomorrow, with the first meeting of the Labour Party inquiry team.

Mr Prentice is to give his evidence to the team when it meets at Transport House, the party headquarters. He will be taking with him some senior members of the local party who support his appeal. Others who have been summoned to include officers of the constituency Labour Party and Mr John Hill, the party's regional officer.

The inquiry team consists of Mr Tom Bradley, this year's party chairman, and Mr John Hill, the party's regional officer. The team is not expected to complete its inquiry and make recommendations after this week's meeting. Any recommendations it eventually makes will have to go through a long process before going to the national executive for a final decision, which is not expected to be made until late in November at the earliest.

Friends of Mr Prentice believe that his appeal will be rejected, partly because of the executive's "weakness" in failing to help 14 passengers whose cars were held on a ferry. Mr Prentice's appeal will be rejected, partly because of the executive's "weakness" in failing to help 14 passengers whose cars were held on a ferry.

Mr Prentice has submitted a memorandum on his appeal. It is primarily based on the argument that the national executive should face the question whether an MP should be a delegate or representative of the constituency. He believes that although there were one or two minor irregularities in the decision to dismiss him, there are insufficient grounds to base his case on the breaking of rules.

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Nottingham drivers in cat and mouse game with transport authority to avoid delays

By Michael Bailey

Transport Correspondent

Nottingham's controversial traffic control system, on which the eyes of planners all over the world are focused, is arousing such hostility among local people that it seems as likely to be scrapped as extended when a year's trial ends next summer.

It uses a combination of traffic lights and street barriers to keep out cars and allow buses into the city centre during the morning peak, and is probably the most advanced attempt yet to regulate city traffic by giving public transport priority over private.

Planners, many of whom are as much in favour of this type of scheme as they were of urban motorways a decade or so ago, are naturally hoping it will be a success. But on a two-day visit to Nottingham last week after two months' operation of the scheme I talked to only one person in favour of it. That was Mr Brian Collins, the director of planning and transportation, who is carrying out the project for the Labour-controlled council.

Of the others, all but two were ordinary citizens chosen at random, mostly from the western quarter of the city, inhabited by about 25,000 of Nottingham's 300,000 population, where the pilot scheme is operating. I asked them two questions: "What do you think of the scheme?" and "can you see any benefits in it?"

Typical answers to the first question were: "It's chaos," "It's a waste of money," "I don't really like it." "It makes me late for work in the morning." "They haven't solved a problem, they've made one." No one could think of any benefits.

Two benefits are added for Nottingham's "zone and collar" system: Better bus services from the suburbs to the centre; and less through traffic in residential areas. Residents are told that the "collar" will be a success. But on a two-day visit to Nottingham last week after two months' operation of the scheme I talked to only one person in favour of it.

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System as likely to be scrapped as extended when year's trial ends next summer

on the special bus lane along side to go straight through. There is no doubt that the colour scheme is working in that there are queues half a mile long in the car lanes between 7.45 and 9.15 in the morning, while the bus lanes are mostly empty. Bus services have not improved, however. According to the transport department, some services are better but some are worse.

As for the "zone" part, a cat and mouse game seems to be going on as motorists switch routes in an effort to penetrate the defences, and the traffic authority switches the controls to try to stop them.

Another aspect of the scheme that is not working well is the park-and-ride system, designed to persuade the motorist to leave his car in the suburbs and travel by bus. Four car parks providing a total of 1,200 spaces were provided at a cost of £150,000, and a fleet of special buses ferries motorists in and out at an annual cost of £160,000.

Only about 50 cars a day use the parks, giving so few passengers for the buses that it is said to be costing more than £6 a head to run each into town. In an effort to make them more attractive fares are to be abolished. Free transport into town for all car occupants will be thrown in with a 10p parking ticket.

The two people I spoke to who might be thought to have a vested interest against the scheme, the local heads of the chamber of commerce and Royal Automobile Club, were unanimous in their view that the scheme is unnecessary and ill conceived.

The £300m urban motorway scheme of the 1950s was also wrong, but the correct alternative was not the zone and collar, they said, but selective improvements to deal with local traffic.

With the M1 and other trunk road improvements near by,

that this situation can continue much longer.

Attempts to negotiate with the kidnappers went on throughout the weekend, but with no apparent signs of success. Their long silences and stubborn insistence on the release of the three prisoners have made the main causes of the lack of progress since Dr Herrema was first dragged from his car in Limerick.

Call for prayers: An appeal for nightly prayers for the safe return of Dr Herrema was made yesterday by Cardinal Conway, head of the Roman Catholic church in Ireland.

Woman found injured: A critically injured woman and a quantity of weapons and ammunition were found in a house in Londonderry yesterday by four British soldiers of the Queen's Regiment (four London-derry Correspondent writes). Last night security forces had not made up their minds if they had discovered an IRA training school or an IRA distribution centre.

Brandside, Friel, aged 22, was found in an upstairs bedroom of a house on the Shantallow estate with gunshot wounds to the head. Two revolvers, a sub-machinegun, two rifles and 132 rounds of ammunition were also found in the house. It is believed that Miss Friel was wounded when a weapon was discharged accidentally.

The awe that attended a visit to the museum as a shrine should be retained, he said. The problem was how to remove an outsider's lack of confidence without killing the thrill of admiring art.

The four-day conference, which ends today, is organized jointly by the American Assembly and the British Museum. It is being attended by directors and curators of European and American art museums, professors of art history, artists, and art administrators.

Under the chairmanship of Sir John Pope-Hennessy, director of the British Museum, they discussed the current problems of art museums, including finance and administration, educational, acquisition and exhibition policy, and recruitment and training of staff. Recommendations on policy are to be made today.

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Move by kidnappers expected soon

HOME NEWS

British trawlermen believe Iceland is ready for fishing pact

by a Staff Reporter

The British fishing industry is optimistic, despite predictions to the contrary, that talks with Iceland on fishing limits, due to begin in London on Thursday, will result in a new agreement permitting British trawlers to fish between 12 and 15 miles off the Icelandic coast.

Despite the fact that the 200-mile limit, the agreement as much Britain does, according to the Fish Trawlers Federation, is a question yet to be decided, it is what British trawlers will do when the agreement runs out on November 13 if no new pact has been made by then that will have put their cards on the table, and that a sufficiently amicable atmosphere has been created to permit fishing to continue until a new agreement is reached.

The federation believes that the British has much to lose by not having the same kind of military attitude as it did in the "cold war". The international climate of opinion has changed since then. Much of sympathy for Iceland as a nation fighting for survival has evaporated, and some of the sympathy for Britain, whose plight is acknowledged.

There is a consensus that the 200-mile limit will be accepted by all nations at the next Law of the Sea conference in New York next March, and there is a feeling of irritation among the fishing nations, notably Iceland, at countries which laterally impose limits.

Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, turned his attention to the limits. A month ago he invited the United States to leaving agreement on limits

next March. It is thought that an agreement will pave the way for a further one which will permit America to exploit the deep-sea bed for minerals and the like.

Iceland does not want to irritate America unduly, or to risk difficulties in what is for her a large and important market.

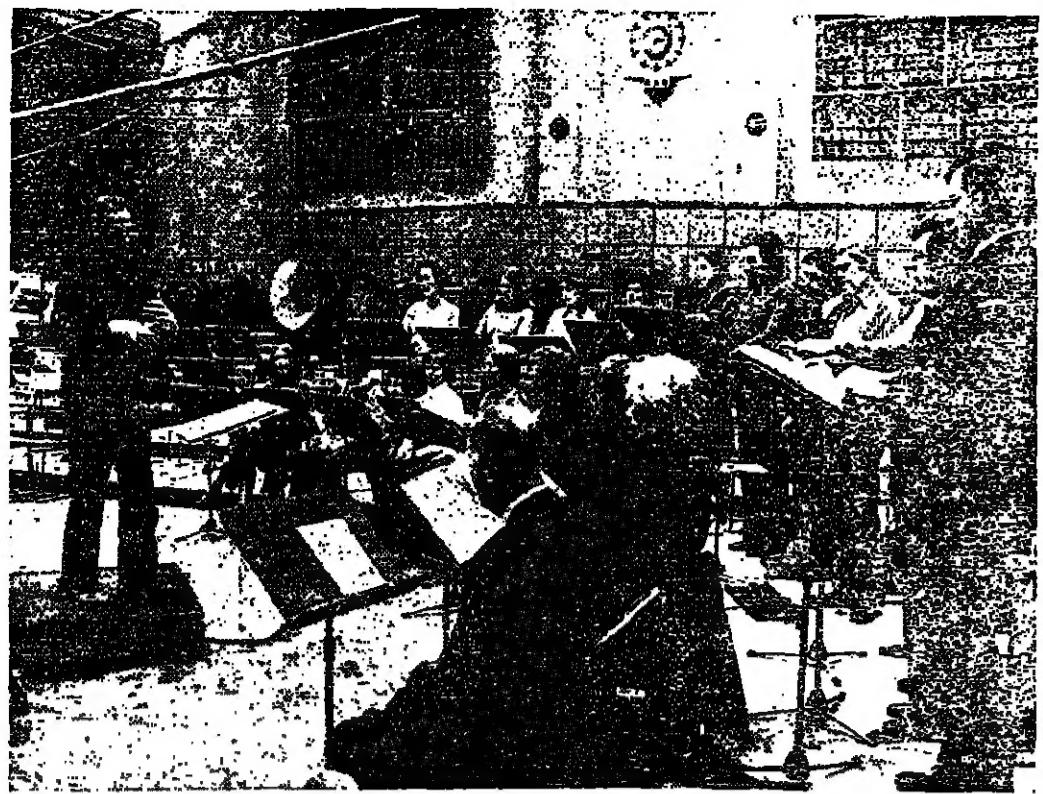
Another important point is that Iceland wants to open the European market and, ideally, would like an agreement with the EEC. A satisfactory agreement with Britain could pave the way.

Many members of the trawlers federation see a stumbling block in Iceland's predicament. She suffers from severe economic pressures, has raging inflation, and has no firm policy to satisfy her people politically.

Most Icelanders firmly believe that when the two-year agreement with Britain ends next month it will be the end of foreign fishing in Icelandic waters. The situation is highly unlikely because of her international hopes and aspirations.

Added to that, Iceland's fishing industry is not thriving. Britain's average catch for the 10 years before the existing agreement was 180,000 tons, and this year it will work out at 130,000 tons, theoretically leaving 50,000 tons more for Iceland. But her catch level has not increased significantly.

Her fishing industry is not as efficient as it was planned to be. If further restrictions are imposed by Iceland then the industry will be in trouble. The fact that Iceland has so far steadfastly refused to say what action she will take if British trawlers continue to fish in her waters after November 13 is an indication that room has been made for negotiation, and that there is a desire not to prejudice the new talks.



Fifty choral years: John Poole, the Chorus Director, rehearsing tonight's fiftieth anniversary choral work, commissioned from Sir Lennox Berkeley, for the BBC Singers. It is for unaccompanied voices, as was the

first broadcast of the Wireless Chorus, as they were then known, on October 19, 1925, on 2LO. The new season of public concerts at St John's, Smith Square, London, starts tonight.

Crisis looms over press debate

By Our Political Staff

The Government may have to look at a constitutional crisis in the face today when the Lords debate the controversial issue of the closed shop and the freedom of the press.

Although Lord Goodman has moved away from his demand for a special statute to defend press freedom, the new amendment he has tabled to the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill in order to form some common ground with the Government are likely to be rejected by it.

Whitehall sources said last night that Lord Goodman's amendments were still likely to create new areas where the law

could be invoked in an industrial dispute by making statutory use of the code of conduct for the industry contained in the Bill.

The Government sees the code of conduct in the same manner as the Highway Code: although it cannot be used as a basis for taking legal action it can be brought forward as evidence in a court case. The initial reaction of ministers is that Lord Goodman's amendments inject into the code the possibility of its being legally enforceable, and consequently it cannot be accepted.

While there could be a last-minute change of mind by the Government, that was being

heavily discounted last night and consequently the prospect

The most important amendment seeks to add to the Bill that any violation of the code of conduct would be deemed "contrary to public policy", which, the Government believes, could be construed as making the code legally binding.

The Government has attempted to reach a compromise with the peers by tabling its own amendment, which proposes the creation of an independent tribunal to hear complaints from editors and journalists who feel aggrieved because of alleged breaches of the code.

The Lords should fight, page 13

Threat to schooling in vote by teachers

Teachers should refuse to take the classes of colleagues who are expected to be away for more than three days, the Extra Metropolitan section of the National Union of Teachers decided unanimously yesterday.

The executive of the NUT will discuss the resolution in two weeks' time. The section represents 40,000 teachers in outer London.

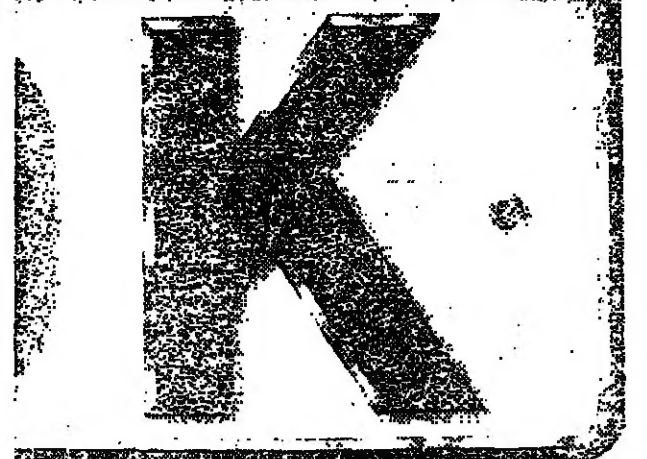
Mr Max Morris, a former president of the NUT and the section's representative on the executive, agreed yesterday that it could mean children being sent home from school and the re-introduction of part-time education in many areas. "It would be for the executive to decide whether to introduce the policy on a selective area-by-area basis or universally."

He said that 5,000 teachers were reported to be out of work. "Our aim is a practical measure to force local authorities to employ supply teachers, which in many cases they are refusing to do, even though the Government has provided the money for them to be employed through the rate support grant."

Authorities had the money to employ the teachers, but in some cases they were using the cash for other purposes, he said.

With the ministers concerned.

Mr Wilson said that he would be wrong to raise their hopes of an appeal against the Government's decision. The meeting would be preparatory to one with the ministers concerned.



Important notice to all owners of motor vehicles with registration marks ending with K.

The transfer of vehicle records to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre at Swansea began last March (as announced in the press) and applied to vehicles with L, M and N registrations.

From 1st November, 1975, vehicles with K registrations will be affected.

If you own a K-registration vehicle and renew its licence with effect from 1st November or later, you will get a new tax disc just as you have always done. But your log book will be sent to Swansea so that a new record of your vehicle can be made there. The log book will be replaced in due course by a new registration document. This will be posted to you, so please make sure that your current vehicle log book shows your full correct name, address and postcode.

A receipt will be issued to cover the period between the handing-in of your log book and the arrival of the new registration document.

All this will happen automatically and you need do no more than ensure that the log book details are correct and clear.

Issued by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea SA6 7JL.

Euthanasia will be next, anti-abortionists told

Continued from page 1

had safeguarded democracy, and expressed confidence that the Government would uphold that tradition, was deleted at Mr Bowden's insistence.

Mr Bowden said before the rally began that he was opposed to abortion for reasons of social convenience, and thought that it would inevitably lead to euthanasia. There was still a majority in the House of Commons in favour of changing the 1967 Act, although how far it would like to go was not clear.

Among the speakers was Miss Debbie Saunders, illegitimate and an unmarried mother of two children, one of them mentally handicapped. "I am the kind of person pro-abortionists quote as one who should not have been born", she said. She appealed to all women who were pregnant and who felt they could not possibly keep the

child to think seriously about adoption.

The rally coincided with a weekend conference at Imperial College, London, organized by the National Abortion Campaign. An official said later that they would fight strenuously against the recovering of the select committee, which had proved itself biased and blind to the real issues.

Six women chained themselves together and carried abortion placards in front of the altar during two masses at Westminster Cathedral. They were members of the "A Woman's Right to Choose" campaign.

They said in a statement afterwards that they objected to the hierarchy attempting to force a change in the law which would restrict the choice of every woman, not merely those who had religious objections to abortion.

Greater Concorde noise indicated, GLC says

New recordings indicate that Concorde could exceed Heathrow airport's noise limits on 80 per cent of its flights over west London, the Greater London Council said yesterday. That compares with a Department of Trade report last week that the aircraft exceeded the allowed maximum noise level on 28 out of 40 take-offs, a 70 per cent "failure".

The GLC measurements, unlike those of the Department of Trade, include landings. They were made in conjunction with four London boroughs, Surrey County Council and Spelthorne District Council at 33 locations.

The GLC reports that on

take-off Concorde is more than twice as loud as the more noisy aircraft using Heathrow, like the Boeing 707, and up to six times as loud as quieter aircraft such as Tristar, which are expected to constitute the bulk of traffic in the 1980s.

"Noise on landing is marginally louder than the noisier aircraft currently in use, but would be nearly three times louder than the new, quieter aircraft being introduced", it says.

The figures, as yet undisclosed, were being tabulated for presentation at today's GLC planning committee meeting.

'Smear' claim by candidate in union poll

By Our Labour Staff

Mr Terence Duffy, a moderate candidate in crucial elections being held by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday that he was the victim of a smear campaign. He is to demand an apology from Labour Weekly, the official Labour Party journal, over an article published on Friday.

In his left-wing opponent in the poll, Mr Bob Wright, is quoted as saying that right-wing candidates in the elections "are supported by Tory MPs. Aims of industry, and Truismid, the organization set up by Colonel Stirling, who used to run GB 75."

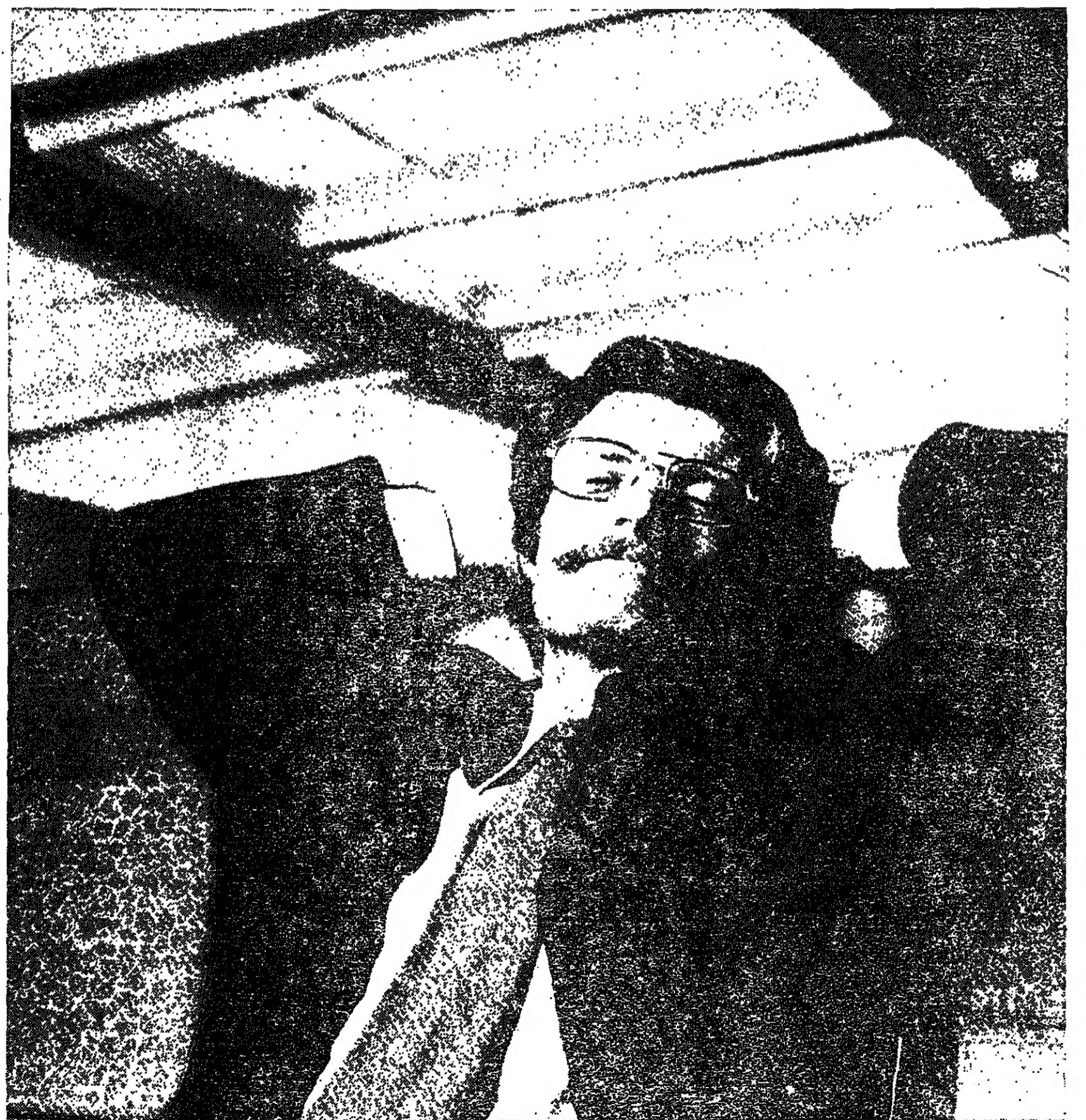
The ballot, for a number of key union posts, closes on Thursday and will decide the political complexion of the union. Mr Wright has been a member of the executive for seven years and in Labour Weekly he rejects suggestions that he is Communist-backed.

Cost 'may change Scots view on devolution'

Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for West Lothian, and vice-chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, has challenged the validity of the Social Science Research Council's findings in their investigation of the Scottish voters' attitudes towards devolution and the proposed Scottish assembly.

Mr Dalyell said at a conference of the Scottish Further Education Association at Callander, Stirling, on Saturday, that he thought thousands of people who said they favoured the assembly might change their minds sharply when they knew how costly it would be.

He said: "If you ask the sort of 'Do you want an assembly which could give you more say in your own affairs?' type of question, a lot of people would naturally say 'Yes, of course.' Abolishing the Scottish regions and giving many of their functions to a government in Edinburgh was not devolution but centralization, he said.



The L-1011 TriStar. Take comfort in the fuel it saves.

Narrow-body jets, 65% occupied (a typical passenger load), burn 87 gallons of fuel per passenger cross-country.

The L-1011 TriStar, 65% occupied, burns only 66 gallons per passenger. That works out to around 40 miles to the gallon—mileage even an economy car owner can envy. And mighty comforting these days when we're all trying to cut down on fuel.

But lower fuel consumption isn't the only thing that makes you feel comfortable in an L-1011. And it starts the moment you step aboard.

First, you walk through the widest front doors of any jetliner. In fact, passengers can enter two abreast instead of single file. And that's just a hint of the bigger things to come.

Inside, you get more legroom, more shoulder room, more elbowroom. Seats are wider. Even the lavatories on the L-1011 are bigger. And they're placed where they're more accessible.

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The Lockheed L-1011 TriStar. The Big fuel saver.



Miss Pat Arrowsmith.

'Pacifist held for leaflet in Aldershot'

by John Groszer

Representations are to be made to the Home Secretary by the National Council for Civil Liberties after the arrest at Aldershot yesterday afternoon of Miss Pat Arrowsmith, the campaigner for pacifism, under Prevention of Terrorism

Miss Arrowsmith was taken to custody at Aldershot while distributing leaflets allegedly urging for the withdrawal of British soldiers from Northern Ireland. No charges were made against her, but the police seized the 200 copies of the leaflet that she carried with her. She was released on bail of £100 her own recognisance to appear again at Aldershot court station on December 1.

She was told that if the Director of Public Prosecutions decided to bring charges against her, she need not appear on a date.

Miss Arrowsmith was asked by two police officers if she was putting leaflets through the letterboxes of houses. Later police told her there had been a complaint from a soldier who had the pamphlet, and that she was being detained under Prevention of Terrorism

Miss Arrowsmith insisted to police that she was not distributing a canvass in the prison part of the town. She was distributing a leaflet setting forth a political argument which was part of project being conducted in Aldershot by the British White Paper from Northern Ireland campaign.

One of the complaints of the Jona Council for Civil Liberties is that Miss Arrowsmith is alleged to have been ejected to a "strip search".

0.0000 winner

£50,000 Premium Savings prize, announced on Saturday, was won by number 27 370852. The winner lives in Surrey.

He 25 £1,000 winners are:

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Mr Benn to hear pit leaders' fears

Our Labour Staff

The executive of the National Union of Mineworkers are to meet Mr Benn, Secretary of the Home Office, early next month to express misgivings about plans to close some coal power stations. Power-supply unions and the Electricity Council last week reached agreement on an extended programme, mostly affecting older coal-fired power stations.

Mr Joseph Gormley, president

of the NUM, told a weekend school of colliery officials and staff at Whiteley Bay, Tyne and Wear, yesterday that the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board had been reported as saying that he would like the board to get out of coal entirely.

"I do not care what the chairman of the CEBG says. We have a plan for the coal industry accepted by the House of Commons", he said. The executive would tell Mr Benn and the

Government that the CEBG were not the bosses of their own destinies.

He said there were threats that all new stations would be nuclear-powered and that by 1990 three fifths of the power would be supplied by nuclear stations. "I have said that they are in cloud cuckoo land if they believe that; that the economic dreams are fantasies, and that the potential for disaster from nuclear stations has not yet been revealed."

WEST EUROPE

Growing concern felt in Madrid over General Franco's health in spite of official reassurances

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Oct 19

Concern for General Franco's health added to the mounting problems of the Spanish Government this week as anti-regime gunmen killed another senior policeman and Spain called for a Security Council meeting about the Sahara.

Highly reliable, but unofficial, medical sources said that the general, aged 82, had to cut short a regular Cabinet meeting at his El Pardo palace last Friday because of illness, and that one of Spain's leading cardiologists was summoned to the palace on Friday night. Other unofficial medical sources claimed that doctors had to perform a tracheotomy (incision of the windpipe) to ease his breathing. Highly reliable sources said that a team of cardiologists had visited the general earlier in the week.

A spokesman denied such reports, which in any case did not find their way into print in Spain. The spokesman said on Saturday night: "There is nothing wrong with him. All of those reports are false. The only thing that happened is that the chief of state had a cold for a couple of days." Madrid newspapers reported today that he had now recovered from the cold.

In Zarauz, a fashionable Basque coastal resort, suspected

Basque separatists fatally shot a plain-clothes senior member of the paramilitary civil guard of the police on Saturday night. The policeman, Senor Manuel Lopez Trivino, the father of six children, was killed on his way home from work. An unknown assailant put three bullets into his head.

Like another weekend incident in the Basque country, in which two uniformed members of the civil guard were fired upon while on border patrol near Irun, the killing of the plain-clothes man is believed to be the work of the outlawed ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty). In the border incident one of the policemen was wounded in one leg.

It was at least the second political killing in Spain in the course of the week. Last Sunday night a Basque taxi driver was shot dead in what appeared to be a retaliation for the right-wing killing of a Basque businessman. The policeman killed in Zarauz was at least the eleventh member of the regime's police to be slain by enemies of General Franco since August 27 last, when five political activists were executed by firing squads made up of policemen, not soldiers.

It was learned in Madrid that Army officers in at least some of Spain's eight military districts are being required to report any correspondence

which they receive from certain other officers. This is an effort designed to root out the anti-regime UDM (Democratic Military Union). Officers who receive correspondence from black-listed colleagues and fail to report it, are subjected to punishment themselves. Such punishment frequently involves being set back on the promotion lists.

There was an indication today that the movement has also infiltrated some units of the police forces. Captain Julian Delgado, an Army captain who had served for 10 years with the security police in Barcelona, was removed from that assignment, in a move said after an investigation into the activities of the UDM. Whether the captain had links with the movement was not clear. It was also learned here this weekend that a number of other Spanish military officers are expected to be arrested soon in the same sedition case in which 12 Army and Air Force officers are awaiting trial.

Military authorities in Barcelona have put Senor Jacinto Soler Padro, a city councillor, under arrest for 30 days for writing a letter to the Mayor, asking him to intercede for the release of a journalist who had been jailed for "insulting" armed forces in a story he wrote about prostitution.



Undampened enthusiasm: An elderly woman with an umbrella gives vent to her feelings at a political rally in Oporto.

Giscard visit defined limits of détente

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Oct 19

Has Mr Brezhnev's nose, like Cleopatra's, changed the course of history, *Le Journal du Dimanche* wondered today. Whether the Soviet leader's nose was real or diplomatic has become irrelevant. Every one in France, from one extreme of the political spectrum to the other, agrees that it marked a turning point in Franco-Soviet relations. Things between Paris and Moscow are no longer what they used to be in the days of General de Gaulle or even of President Pompidou.

The signature of a document proclaiming in President Pompidou's words, that "Franco-Soviet cooperation has become an inalienable element of the process of détente" and President Giscard d'Estaing's insistence, on his return to Paris on Saturday, that his visit had raised this cooperation to "a higher level", do not alter the facts.

The French communists naturally blame the President's alleged failure to take the least step "to translate into facts the agreements of Helsinki". *L'Humanité* remarked upon the wave of anti-communism on French television which coincided with the visit. Others

blame the blunt limits of détente laid down by Mr Brezhnev; it could never extend, he made it clear, to what one commentator calls the "contraband of Western ideas" in Russia.

"It is normal", the President said on his return, "that each should defend his system, that there should be competition and emulation between different ideological systems. But this must take place in a spirit compatible with détente. We have often emphasized our determination not to interfere in Russian internal affairs. If the ideological confrontation exceeds certain limits, it would be contrary to this spirit of détente."

For him, relaxation of tension begins not only with the consolidation of the status quo in Western Europe, but also with the free circulation of men and ideas. That was where, inevitably, the two men parted company.

Yet, neither side could afford a real breach. France still needs the Soviet Union, less as a counterweight to Germany than as evidence of its independent position between the two world power blocks. The Russians still need France as one pawn in the diplomatic game outside direct American control.

Singer comes to rescue of Casino de Paris

From Our Correspondent
Paris, Oct 19

Paris, Oct 19.—The Casino de Paris, first opened in 1917 when the German "Big Bertha" gun was bombarding the city, has been given a new lease of life by Line Renaud, one of its former stars.

Mlle Renaud, who strode down the giant Casino staircase in more than 1,000 performances, announced today that she will open on March 15 next year, 10 years to the day since she left.

But she will have a hard task to make ends meet. M Roland Petit, the director who planned to close the Casino in January, explained: "Seat prices have risen by a mere 15 per cent in the past few years while salaries are up by 225 per cent."

Among famous names appearing at the Casino have been Mistinguette, Josephine Baker and Maurice Chevalier—Agence France-Press.

Portugal imposes gun control to end violence

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Oct 19

President Costa Gomes has introduced strict gun control laws in Portugal, providing heavy fines and imprisonment from two to eight years for illegally carrying, dealing in or using firearms. Civilians have been given until Friday to surrender their guns and explosives to the authorities.

The new measures, announced last night, form part of the Government's desperate attempt to end political violence involving troops and demonstrators.

They came after mass thefts of weapons and ammunition from Army depots and a declaration from General Olego Saraiva Carvalho, the revolutionary chief of Copcon, the internal security force, that weapons in the hands of left-wing elements "are in good hands".

General Costa Gomes, acting in his capacity of Chief of the General Staff, stated that an official inquiry was being made

into recent thefts, among them a batch of 1,000 automatic rifles. These arms, his statement added, were being used by certain elements against the people.

The new gun control law extends to anyone selling, illegal arms, importing, distributing, stocking or transporting them. The Revolutionary Council is reported to have decided to reinforce military discipline. It was announced over the weekend that a stable security force is to be formed to reinforce Copcon and the newly formed special security force, AML.

Lisbon, Oct 19.—Ranged against the gun control measures are the parties of the far left, and dissident left-wing soldiers who feel the Government has moved the country to the right. A spokesman for the Revolutionary Brigades of the Proletarian Party said his own organization, along with armed workers, peasants and neighbourhood councils would not respond to the Government measures.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Chilly reception awaits Rhodesian leader after television remark

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Oct 19

Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, is due to arrive in Pretoria tomorrow for what will be a very chilly reception from Mr Vorster if the South African press is any judge of the situation.

"Let him have it, Mr Vorster," was the heading under the leading article in the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* on the subject. The Johannesburg *Sunday Express* said: "It is just as well Mr Smith is coming here tomorrow. He has a lot of explaining to do if he is to redeem his image in South Africa."

The *Sunday Tribune*, published in Durban, looked at the Rhodesian leader's record over nearly a decade of UDI under the headline: "Good old Smithy becomes a bit of a problem."

It is certain that Mr Smith will not be taking much notice of the jacarandas now in bloom in Pretoria. But it is by no means certain that he is going to be given a lecture.

There is no doubt that the South African press is offended, to put it mildly, by Mr Smith's remarkable statement in a television interview shown in Britain last Sunday that he was on the point of reaching agreement with Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the African nationalist leader, when Mr Vorster intervened with his detente exercise and messed things up.

Mr Smith has said since that he did not intend to imply criticism of Mr Vorster and that in any case his words were misinterpreted by the press. The latter explanation has been rejected out of hand by South African Government circles which is a fairly new experience.

Customarily, the press is blamed for every incautious remark by a politician. But this time the Rhodesian leader said it before the camera and it all went down on video.

The Rhodesian Broadcasting Corporation screened it, the South African Broadcasting Corporation screened it in a "test transmission"—part of the preparation for a switch-on in January—and the South African Cabinet had its own private showing.

Several of Mr Vorster's ministers have spoken out forcibly about Mr Smith's remarks, but more in sorrow than in anger. There is a feeling of bewilderment that Mr Smith has decided to kick the only friend he has.

There is also a growing feeling that the job, after nearly 10 lonely years, has become too much for Mr Smith. Certainly, he has aged recently, but among his Cabinet there appears to be one capable of succeeding him.

Mr Smith will be accompanied to Pretoria by Mr Roger Hawkins, Minister of Transport and Power, and David Smith, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr Romanus Croje, Minister of Health, Labour and Social Welfare. All three hold portfolios which bear directly on Rhodesia's economic ties with South Africa.

Noticeably, Mr P. K. van der Byl, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is not in the party. Nor was he at the Victoria Falls talks in August. According to some reports, the Rhodesians have been told that he is unwelcome in Pretoria for his apparent inability to grasp the importance of the detente exercise. During a previous visit he is said to have shocked his hosts by referring to blacks as "niggers" and by saying that Rhodesia was well able to "handle the niggers".

Reports which suggest that Mr Vorster will demand a public apology from Mr Smith could be considerably wide of the mark. While expressing his disappointment clearly to Mr Smith, he is unlikely to ride roughshod over him. They both need each other if detente is ever going to work.

Sakharov panel finds Russia guilty

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, Oct 19

The international Sakharov hearing on human rights in the Soviet Union concluded its examination of witnesses today by establishing that freedom of thought and expression in the Soviet Union is restricted by the authorities.

Harassment is used to prevent nonconformist behaviour, religious freedom is "substantially restricted" and the authorities suppress the vital interests and aspirations of national minorities.

The concluding document stated that, while people who must clearly be termed political prisoners are deprived of their liberty in prisons, camps and psychiatric wards, the evidence presented has not been adequate to prepare any estimate on their number.

The material provided for hearing the 24 witnesses by a panel of 12 questioners will be placed at the disposal of international bodies and other interested parties.

The hearing, the document added, had given the panel "strong reason to doubt that the Soviet Union is observing the principles laid down in the international covenant on civil and political rights ratified by the Soviet Union in 1973, and in the Helsinki declaration of 1975, also signed by the Soviet Union, especially the declaration concerning respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

It expressed the hope, however, that Soviet signature of the Helsinki agreement would mean that the intrusions of human rights established during the three-day hearing will not take place in the future.

During the hearing witnesses gave accounts of their personal experiences in the hands of the Soviet authorities, describing the use of force and labour in Soviet industry, the restrictions placed upon many religious congregations, the conditions within labour camps and the use of lunatic asylums to suppress political dissent.

Five witnesses, Andrei Gribanov, Viktor Balashov, Lev Kvatkevich, Victor Feinberg and Boris Suragin—today presented a joint appeal to the panel urging it to disregard the intolerance, prejudice, lack of objectivity and lack of independence of the testimony.

Mr Feinberg said later that he would not name the testimonies concerned because "in some ways they are very exact but they also express political views, which are very concerned with human rights. . . . We must remember that they are people who have suffered much."

The organisers agreed that most of the information presented was already known in the West but they hoped that by bringing it to public notice the Soviet authorities would be induced to moderate their treatment and, perhaps, release political detainees.

Berlin KGB agent exposed

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, Oct 19

Mr Serge Wiatkin, aged 38, then press chief in West Berlin of Intourist, the Soviet travel agency, has been recalled after being exposed as a member of the KGB.

The assessment of Berlin *Morgenpost*, which broke the story, that he was one of the most dangerous Soviet spies,

was probably an exaggeration. Official comment was not available.

Mr Wiatkin, his family and other staff members live in an apartment in the United States sector. His known interests concerned mainly civil matters. Apparently he lost his usefulness for the KGB when an espionage contact in West Berlin recently failed to keep an appointment with him.

Danger of mines for Sahara protesters

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Oct 19

A report from Spanish Sahara of an incident in which a soldier was killed and several others injured by mines while on border patrol indicated a new danger for Moroccan protesters if they cross the border.

According to Spanish military authorities in El Aaiun, three Army vehicles were damaged by mines on Saturday. This is not the first incident in which mines have caused casualties in the border area. It is believed that troops on both sides have mined certain places. Civilian marchers might be expected to be even less aware of the danger than military men.

Informed sources said in Madrid today that Spain was expected to ask the United Nations to send troops or observers to the Sahara immediately to act as a buffer force between the Army and Moroccan civilian marchers.

There was no official comment, however, about the intentions of the Spanish Government, other than a statement on Saturday saying Spain had requested an urgent meeting of the Security Council.

French Sahara came reports that nationalist political organizations were organizing a countermarch of Saharan natives to block the border to the column of 350,000 unarmed men, women and children that King Hassan has promised to lead.

The Spanish Government declined all responsibility for whatever might occur if the Moroccan king went through with his plan to invade the Spanish territory at the head of the march. It said that the march, "in spite of its pretence of a peaceful appearance, entails a serious threat to international peace and security."

"The Spanish Government reiterates its proposal to seek the decolonization of the western Sahara under the auspices of the United Nations, whose resolutions approving self-determination have been endorsed by the findings of the World Court of Justice."

This is the first time Spain has called for an urgent meeting of the Security Council.

Israel deplores 'racist' vote at the UN

From Moshe Bravman
Tel Aviv, Oct 19

Mr Yigal Allon, the Foreign Minister, reported with mixed feelings to the Israeli Cabinet today on the United Nations Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee vote denouncing Zionism as racist.

He deplored the outcome but added with satisfaction that the Arabs had their usual mechanical majority without a struggle.

He contrasted the vote of 70 to 29 with 27 abstentions to the vote of 126 to one, with two abstentions, against racial discrimination. Delegations from all continents and representing various ideologies, including the Third World, backed Zionism or abstained, the minister pointed out.

Mr Allon told the Cabinet that Arab states with colonialism and racial discrimination was a substitute for their failure to secure Israel's suspension from the United Nations.

But, he said, the latest move was designed to question Israel's place in the United Nations and the right of the Jewish people to nationhood. Earlier the Foreign Ministry issued a statement denouncing the vote as "an ugly manifestation of neo-antisemitism."

Deep concern was expressed by Professor Y. Yovel, head of the philosophy department of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, in a radio broadcast. He said the association of Judaism with Zionism and Zionism with racism and all that was negative may create prejudices in areas such as the Third World where Judaism played no role in their culture or historic consciousness.

Gen Assad in new arms deal with Russia

From Our Own Correspondent
Beirut, Oct 19

President Assad of Syria has declared that Syria will never accept American offers to reach a new agreement, on the Golan Heights like the one reached in Sinai. He also revealed that his recent visit to Moscow would result in new supplies of Soviet arms for Syria.

In an interview with the Kuwait newspaper *Al Rai* al Kuwait referring to the Sinai agreement, President Assad said that its principal aim was to separate Egypt from the Middle East conflict.

At the same time, President Assad again criticized the Syrian regime, accusing it of meddling in the conflict in Lebanon and "infiltrating" the Palestine guerrilla movement.

President Sadat reiterated that he had assurances from President Ford that the United States would follow up the Sinai agreement by working for a similar one in the Golan Heights.

The latest broadsides by the two leaders come at a time when relations between them have soured since the 1973 war. The latest evidence for this was Egypt's decision last week to withdraw its Air Force units which had been stationed on the Syrian front since before the 1973 war.

Stringent terms proposed for New York loan

Continued from page 1

Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller called again today for urgent action to ensure that the city does not default. He remains, however, the sole senior member of the Ford Administration to take the view that the federal Government must now move quickly to the rescue. The White House remains determined to prevent a federal bail-out of New York.

The humiliation of the mayor, Mr Beame, becomes greater as the crisis deepens. For the President becomes more impatient. Mr Beame told *The Times* that he had tried without success to telephone the President late on Thursday night. He noted that his call was not returned and that Thursday, Friday, as the city teetered on the brink of default, he did not receive a single word from the White House.

The Senate banking committee will meet on Tuesday to discuss whether to take legislation to help New York. Senator William Proxmire, its chairman, said that he now favours legislation, although he has not yet determined what form it should take. He said he is hopeful that a bill can be tabled by his committee on Tuesday and submitted for debate on the floor of the Senate.

If there is legislation, it will almost certainly involve giving federal Government guarantees for special bonds for use in New York City. The guarantees will be dependent on numerous stringent conditions and safeguards including the formation of some sort of oversight committee to be fully responsible for all of the city's financial affairs.

Leading article, page 13
Banking pledge, page 15

Israel airline strikers defy back-to-work order

From Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, Oct 19

The airline's board of directors met today and decided not to resume flights. The company asked the police to enforce criminal action against nine strikers on charges of obstruction. It was announced tonight that 100 temporary employees were dismissed and 1,000 staff sent home on leave.

Mr Gad Yacobi, the Minister of Transport, last night invoked his emergency powers to issue back-to-work orders to 17 strikers. Four men turned up bearing signs of "forced labourers". They were instructed to tow two aircraft for servicing before scheduled flights to Teheran and Johannesburg.

But hundreds of strikers surrounded them so that they could not move their tractors.

Underground nuclear test by Russia

Uppsala, Oct 19.—The Soviet Union carried out an underground nuclear test on the island of Novaya Zemlya in the Arctic ocean yesterday, according to the Seismological Institute at Uppsala.—Reuter.

FRANCE

A Special Report

in The Times

The Times is planning to publish a major Special Report on France on November 25th, 1975. The Report will include articles on the French economy, her exports, her foreign relations and her industry.

There will also be a special section dealing with the Regions of France: Alsace, Brittany, Champagne, Les pays de la Loire, the Massif Central and Languedoc-Roussillon.

For further information about this Report, and about The Times' wide and influential readership contact: Jean Pradic, on 01-837 1234, extension 7496.

Prostitutes lift siege of by-election town

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Oct 19

The run-off ballot in the by-election at Chateaufort, near Poitiers, today, was under threat of disturbance by a novel form of political sabotage. Prostitutes had decided that the national test into which this by-election has turned gave them a heaven-sent opportunity of drawing attention to their grievances and demands.

Yesterday 250 of them turned up in the respectable provincial town, and nine drove in a delegation to the town hall. They insisted on being received by the mayor, M. Pierre Abelin, who is also Minister for Co-operation, and the Government candidate in the by-election.

"As we continue to be sent to prison for practising prostitution," Ulla, their leader from Lyons, said, "we shall practise it on Sunday in a full fashion. We have sent out a call.

"Imagine 2,000 of my friends sauntering about this small town, at the disposal of anyone who pleases. Imagine a good woman who knows her husband is supposed to go out and vote and that there are young ladies about. She will prevail on him to stay at home."

M. Abelin agreed to receive the delegation.

Ulla and her friends returned to Lyons yesterday, saying: "Every time we have the chance, notably at elections, we shall demonstrate in this way to draw attention to our position."

Today's contest is between M. Abelin, a veteran politician who had opposed the Gaullists until he joined forces with them in the present Government, and Mme Edith Cresson, a socialist. First ballot results showed a substantial falling off in the majority vote since 1973 and a sharp gain in Socialist support.

Festival forced to cancel partisan films on Ulster

By Robert Fisk

The organizers of a film festival which opens at Nyon, Switzerland, today have been forced to cancel their plans for a showing of pro-republican films on Northern Ireland.

The British National Panel for Film Festivals, operating from Film Council offices in London, and entirely supported by a British Government grant, wrote to Mr Gerard Fitt, MP for Belfast, West, asking for his help in acquiring the films.

M. Maurice de Hadelin, the festival organizer, abandoned his plans after senior members of the panel discovered to their surprise and consternation that the deputy secretary of their organization had written to Mr Fitt on M. de Hadelin's behalf.

He asked for Mr Fitt's help in tracing films which have been produced by representatives of any republican movement and which attempt to show the social political prob-

lems in Northern Ireland from a Catholic/Republican viewpoint.

He also described material shown at the festival as socialist in nature and strongly partisan in approach.

Mr Peter Jones, who wrote the letter, has since transferred to another department of the festival panel. His superiors insist that this has nothing to do with his approach to Mr Fitt.

But Miss Mary-Jane Walsh, who took over from him, said that there were "ructions" in the organization after the letter was sent.

"Our organization cannot get involved in committed political films, and this was a personal request from Mr Jones", she said.

A number of BBC films are being screened at Nyon, but they have been obliged to shelve the idea of a section on republican films.

Saudi Prince in London today for talks

By Michael Binyon

Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia arrives in London today on a four-day official visit, the most important event in Anglo-Saudi relations since the state visit of the late King Faisal in 1967.

The Prince, brother of King Khalid and Saudi Arabia's Deputy Prime Minister, will bring a large entourage including Prince Saud bin Faisal, the Foreign Minister; Shaikh Muhammad Aba al-Khalil, Minister of Finance and Economy; and Dr Kham al-Qasbi, Minister of Industry and Electricity.

He will be met at the airport by Mr Wilson and the Duke of

Gloucester, who will himself soon be visiting Saudi Arabia as part of a tour to the Far East.

Britain attaches great importance to this visit and has arranged a busy programme of diplomatic receptions and talks.

Prince Fahd will call on Mr Wilson, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. On Thursday the Prince will give a luncheon in his honour.

Saudi Arabia is Britain's largest trading partner in the Arab world. So far this year Britain has exported £128m worth of goods to Saudi Arabia, though British imports, mainly oil, total £614m.

Saudi Arabia's vast wealth is now of crucial importance to sterling and to the economy of this country. Mr Beale visited Riyadh for talks on a number of times. No less important is Saudi Arabia's role as leader of the moderate countries among the oil-producing nations, and its influence in holding down oil prices.

Prince Fahd, who is on his first official visit to Britain, for several years played a decisive role in Saudi policy. During his talks with the Prime Minister, which begin this afternoon, he will discuss not only matters of oil and Anglo-Saudi relations but the role of his own country as the most influential one in the Middle East today.

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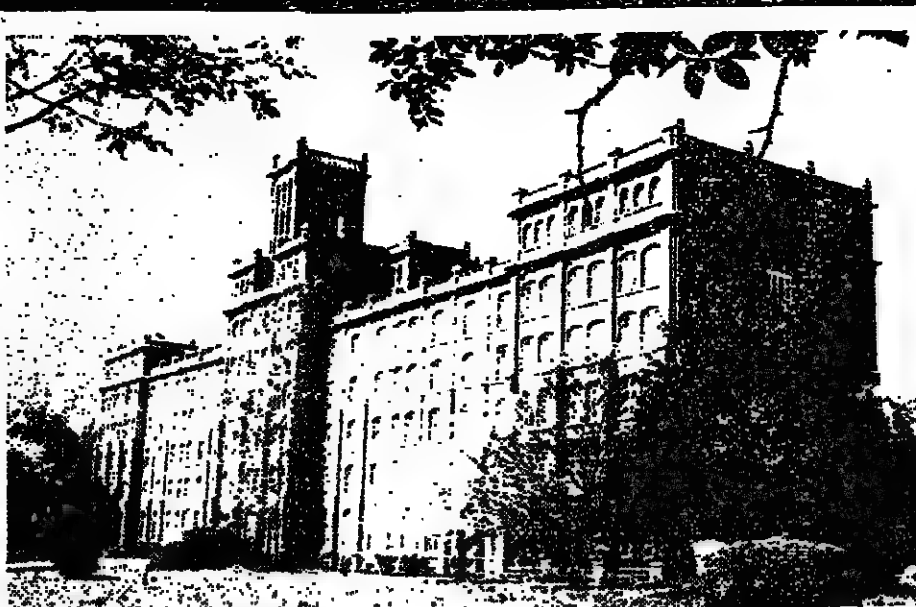
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Seminary sale: The Brussels office of Bernard Thorpe and G. De Wandeleer, acting on behalf of the Belgian Bible Institute, has just finished negotiating the purchase of the Jesuit Seminary of Heverlee, outside Louvain in Belgium. Transferring a building used by the Jesuits to the Protestant Institute involved negotiating many complicated temporary leasebacks to the Jesuit Fathers. The building shown above includes 220 bedrooms, 12 classrooms and a chapel.

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'Half-way house' on Land Bill

A compromise must be reached on the provisions of the Community Land Bill if planning and development are to contribute to economic revival and not be a drag on it. Professor Nathaniel Lichfield, Professor of the Economics of Environmental Planning at University College London, said recently in Birmingham.

He told a British Property Federation meeting that he believed there were elements in the Bill on which its opponents and proponents could agree, and that the planned introduction of the Bill's provisions made such a compromise possible.

Whatever its merits and demerits, the Bill was likely to be on the statute book next month, he said. Those concerned with property and its development could then either cease business awaiting for its repeal by a Conservative Government, or find a way of carrying on.

He advocated the latter course. The Conservatives had made clear that they would repeal a Community Land Act, in all about half an acre, in his view that would be "nothing short of a tragedy for the planning and development of our towns and regions".

The see-saw of land policy since 1952 had done considerable damage to planning and development, with Labour legislation being followed by stagnation as the return of a Conservative Government was awaited. Now was no time for a repetition of those uncertainties.

It was widely recognised that some reforms were necessary. There were severe difficulties over land and in securing effective planning and development. The land policies of

the Bill were another attempt to deal with them. But the reform should be acceptable to both sides of the house, Professor Lichfield said.

Property development was at a low ebb because of the inability of developers to function after the property collapse, cautiousness of financing funds, high interest rates, high building costs, and heavy taxation such as the first letting tax.

It was unfortunate that the low ebb in Britain's economy and property development should coincide with a Bill that aimed at good planning but which none the less could put a big spanner into development. He believed the compromise he proposed would enable a system to be worked out with the Government which would operate in the best interests of good planning and development for the community.

His compromise was based on the fact that the Community Land Bill would be introduced in three clear stages. Those were: the first appointed day, covering all land and all authorities; the mixed situation, which would come after the introduction of relevant dates and commencement dates, covering certain classes of development and certain areas, progressing to all areas; and the second appointed day, applying uniformly to all areas.

The system that would prevail after the first appointed day, and the introduction of the second Bill on development land tax, offered a half-way house which should be adopted without going beyond it, he said.

The first appointed day (FAD) system provided authorities with the opportunity to acquire land, but did not impose on them the duty to do so. That came in the later stages. The FAD system would largely meet the objectives of the Government in putting forward the Bill (better community control of development and greater share of development value to the community).

At the same time it would strengthen planning and development, and as such would be acceptable to many opponents of the Bill as well, he suggested. Going beyond that stage of the Bill would introduce "disbenefits" without providing much extra benefit.

He did not mean to suggest that the FAD system would be acceptable to all. The landowner must suffer, since his freedom to sell and right to develop was eroded under the Bill. But the developer, per se, who did not look to profit out of the land sales but out of the development itself, would not be affected. Indeed, he could be at an advantage compared with the current process of development, with its difficulties of land acquisition.

Given good planning and development, the consumer should also benefit, Professor Lichfield said; not necessarily through lower land prices, but through the benefit of more positive planning and public areas management.

By a Staff Reporter

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Cooperatives are good for much more than farming

The word "cooperation" has acquired so many political, moral—and indeed pious—overtones that its real meaning has become obscured. When I wrote a letter on "learning to cooperate" in the straightforward sense of working together, to the *Times* a few weeks ago, I hardly expected to see it published. But it was, and the interest which the letter aroused—ranging from qualified scepticism to considerable enthusiasm—is evidence that the idea of planned and organized associations of people joined together to achieve better results is enormously attractive—at least in theory.

I suspect the reason why I have been asked to develop this idea is because, during the past eight years, I have had a unique opportunity of seeing it translated into practice. When, in 1967, I became the first chairman of a council set up by the government to promote and encourage cooperation among farmers, I had no idea of the fascinating possibilities that were about to unfold. As others may share the same state of ignorance that I was in then, let me explain briefly what was implicit in the council's task.

It was to develop strictly commercial, competitive trading concerns within the framework of organizations bound by precise rules in relation to such matters as democratic control, remuneration of capital and distribution of profit. To one like myself, brought up in what may be called the fairly orthodox school of business management, it was tremendously exciting to see how successful an enterprise could be, operating under these, to me, abnormal conditions.

The theory and practice of cooperation are, of course, not new. Ever since commercial undertakings began to develop beyond the family stage there have been many ideas as to how they might best be organized. One such idea, that of the cooperative, has shown remarkable adaptability to the changing economic and social scene. The cooperative form of organization is not capitalist, but neither is it anti-capitalist; it hinges on the principle that the benefit or profit from the enterprise shall accrue to the member (as he is usually described, rather than shareholder, though he is that as well) primarily in relation to the use he makes of the business rather than to the amount of money he has invested in it. In a word, it makes "getting" dependent on "giving".

How do these cooperatives measure up to the demands that this harassed world makes of its business organizations? I can only speak of farmers, but they are the most independent of men; if they can make a cooperative system work, there is surely hope for others. Naturally, farmers' cooperatives vary in quality and success, like any other business. Many are profitable organizations while, at the other end of the spectrum, failures are few. In brief, there is nothing which has led me to believe that a business is any less efficient if it is organized on a cooperative rather than on an ordinary company basis.

But we are above all concerned today with what business does for personalities, as well as for profits. I must admit I

have been impressed by my recent experience. First, as to leadership. Agricultural cooperative boards have, up to the present, been composed mainly of farmers. Recently there has been a sensible tendency to make appointments of executive directors from management. Thus there is now beginning to be a mixed "lay" and "professional" board which, to my mind, is a good combination, though it would be even better if one or two people with outside experience could also be introduced.

Secondly, as to self-interest. The cooperative is seen by its members not as an end in itself, but as a means to provide them with a better return for their efforts. This creates a willingness to surrender time, money and, perhaps most difficult of all, personal predilections, to an extent that I found encouraging. Third, job satisfaction. The employees of agricultural cooperatives are not usually members, but there is something, maybe the fact that they work for mainly "lay" boards, which seems to give them a sense of personal importance and identification.

I don't want to give the impression that everything in the garden is lovely. There are problems, particularly in relation to the accumulation of capital for expanded activities. Communications are not necessarily any better in an organization because it is cooperative. Structures have, in the past, tended to be somewhat inflexible. Cooperation between cooperatives has been slow to develop. But these are questions of detail; they do not, I think, invalidate the principle.

I am a moderate (however much a term of abuse this may become) in politics; I detest "isms"; I am impatient of entrenched attitudes. All those cloud the intellect and lead people to organize their affairs in one way, when common sense and experience should guide them towards another. Our modern society has given rise to such tensions that the community of interest on which it rests is in danger of being undermined. Surely it behoves us all to reconsider the basis of all our institutions, and to pay special attention to those which seem to be organized in such a way as to reduce these tensions.

Existing forms of human organization are under severe criticism and strain. There must be ceaseless effort to adapt, improve and, if needs be, scrap; above all, to seek new solutions.

Blake wrote: "I must create a system, or be enslaved by another man's." My past eight years' experience of cooperative enterprise leads me to agree with Blake and I believe the system could be extended with advantage well beyond the realm of agriculture. We are now seeing, in industry and commerce, hesitant steps being taken along the cooperative road. Success so far has been, to say the least, fugitive. Much more needs to be attempted. There is a need for original and enterprising minds who will not be daunted by the obvious difficulties but who will persevere in order to adapt what I, at any rate, found to be an organizational form of immense potential.

Roger Falk

Sir Roger Falk was first Chairman of the Central Council for Agricultural and Horticultural Organization and is Chairman of P.E. International Ltd.

The simple leader's guide to the value of human perversity

Raymond Fletcher

Three important things happened in 1925. The Locarno Pact was signed, not announced. The Swiss town of life same name. I, to the astonishment of my grandmother (convinced that I was not being reared right), had my third birthday. And my distinguished friend, Dr Leopold Rindfleisch-Fresser, arrived at the final formulation of the pedagogical theory with which his name, until now, has never been publicly associated.

The mathematical equations which sustain the theory are abstruse but the theory itself can, somewhat inadequately, be translated into words. It is that methodical instruction and the subsequent thoughts and actions of those so instructed are almost invariably equal and opposite. Dr Rindfleisch-Fresser acknowledges his debt to Newton and once confessed to me that it was a weary British diplomat who prompted him to turn theory into action by stating that none of the innumerable peace conferences he had attended had produced much peace and that a good war conference might do the trick.

Early in his academic career, therefore, the good doctor simply banned the reading of the literature on which he lectured. Any student caught reading Goethe was severely criticised. Those foolishly persisting in studying Heine behind the pages of pornographic journals were caned. And the results were exactly as the theory had indicated. With only one exception, all his pupils had read the banned works so diligently that they passed their examinations with ease and with honours. Even the exception managed to illus-

trate the doctrine of inherent human perversity by eventually becoming Professor of Greek at a Turkish university.

The biography of this remarkable man has yet to be written and if I bump into the Government Chief Whip during one of my occasional visits to the House of Commons I intend to ask for time off to write it. But the last phase of Dr Rindfleisch-Fresser's career is so relevant to our present discontents that I am impelled to reveal something of it now.

It was a stroke of genius on the part of the governing body of the totally unknown University of Freisaußen-am-Rhein to appoint my friend to the chair of Applied Subversion and Practical Terrorism. They were aware of his theory. They were concerned about the restoration of order on German campuses. So they made the appointment and hoped for the best.

They got it. Rigorously instructed in the works of Bakunin, the good doctor drilled the doctrines of Sorel and intellectual armament of the students took the practical work (in which Dr Rindfleisch-Fresser was assisted by a retired member of the Bader-Meinhoff group) in their stride. Their enthusiasm was sometimes excessive. One wing of the sociology faculty had to be twice and the local fire brigade was called in so often that its members went on strike for a special danger allowance and got it.

The recipients of Europe's first doctorates in subversion and terrorism are now taking their places in public life. One is already the equivalent of a British Chief Constable. Eighteen are inspectors of police. Three are officers in the Bundeswehr. Four are energetic and affluent operators on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. And 23 will be standing as Christian Social Democrat candidates, firmly behind order and from Josip Stross at the next German elections. And one, bored with his job as vice-president of a bank, intends to offer his services to this country as director-general of the Social Democratic Alliance if they will have him.

Such a record speaks for itself. The lessons to be drawn from it I decided a few weeks ago, should be conveyed to European leaders. I therefore arranged a private meeting between the good doctor and an eminent European leader; and contrary to every known code of conduct I reveal part of what was said. (The names of the leader has been changed, of course, to protect the innocent.)

Leader: You know my problems, Doctor—inflation, unemployment, rebellion, *Times* leaders, *Times* communists. You name them.

R.F. My dear Harold—I may call you so, may I not?—of course I know your problems. You talk of rebellion, but I listen. You struggle to govern a nation that objects to being governed. But you really must change your style.

Leader: So they all tell me. Especially those who are after my job or my head or both... R.F. My dear fellow, I want of all, you've got to stop telling your people to pull themselves together to pull themselves out of the mess.

Leader: But it's true... R.F. Tut, tut, my friend. Truth is what works. As a good pragmatist you ought to know that. So follow my methods. Tell the House—that's what you call it, no?

That from next Monday your Government will insist that every union immediately demand a 100 per cent wage increase, that every firm shall double its prices that anyone with any spare money at all shall send it to Zurich or Frankfurt at once, and threaten punitive legislation if all this is not complied with.

Leader: Good God, this after Blackpool! And what do our creditors do, may I ask?

R.F. It depends where you do. Go round the world. Tell them all, from the shalks to Helmut Schmidt that Britain is bankrupt, finished and that it is only a matter of days before the Concorde Conspirators (have I the name right?) takes over. Now, contain yourself, please. Everybody in your own country will do the exact opposite of what you order them to do. Nobody in the other will believe a word of what you say. Funds will flow in. Orders will come to your factories in a torrent and...

Here my bugging device (an improved one of course) broke down. A pity. For this is where the story really begins.

The author is Labour MP for Ilkeston. © Times Newspaper Ltd, 1975

New words and new meanings

Absurdity that began with Samuel Johnson

For such a learned Latin word, *internecine* has long since suffered a paradoxical fate. It is generally pronounced in an ungrammatical way, and it has almost lost its Latin meaning. It is now generally taken to mean mutually hostile, as in "the Labour-Conservative/ Liberal Party is rent with its customary internecine warfare".

There is no trace of this connotation of Kilkenny-cat reciprocal hostility in the use of *internecine* in Latin literature. It is derived from *inter-* "I kill without exception, exterminate; and it means fought to the death; of battles; or devastating; of disease; or murderous; of quarrels. The most daring transferred use of the word is not found until the eighteenth century AD, when Paul the Deacon wrote of "an internecine will, through which its author was murdered".

Internecine first appeared in English as a rendering of the Latin *internecium bellum* "The Babelers' struggles: "The Egyptians worshipped Dogs, and for their Faith made internecine war." The editor of 1674 noted against *internecine*, "fierce and zealous". This passage is evidently the origin of the vocabulary pronunciation, with a long instead of a short "e" in the third syllable.

Samuel Johnson, the great classical scholar, of all people mistook the *inter* to signify mutuality, and defining it in his dictionary as "endeavouring mutual destruction". Later lexicographers copied Johnson's mistake, and from the nineteenth century the word has

come to be used generally in the Johnsonian sense.

It is too late to do anything to correct Johnson's inadvertent mistake now. The English language cannot be regarded as a not to offend the susceptibilities of classical scholars. The original meaning of *internecine* is no great loss. There are plenty of adequate substitutes for its true sense: murderous, sanguinary, destructive. But it is a pity that an impressive word was intended to display the erudition of the user, and in doing the opposite. This process is usurping the function of the perfectly good word *murderous*, which really does mean what *internecine* used to mean. *Internecine* is a blood-stained and violent word, and the blood and violence stick to it even in its new overcast of erudition. There is an intrinsic absurdity in writing about internecine political warfare. Politicians are shooting and killing each other.

Intestine political warfare, however, is a fine and correct word, with splendid examples going back to the nineteenth century of battle intestine of our hearts. Unfortunately its use as a noun to mean the pus has corrupted its adjectival meaning. The man who uses *internecine* in its true meaning, as a protest against internecine, runs the risk of bombardment by letters from wiseacres asking him whether he has a belly-ache.

Philip Howard

One step nearer the fulfilment of an African dream

The Tan-Zam railway, linking the Zambian copper belt to Dar es Salaam, 1,160 miles away, will officially open on October 24. Built by the Chinese for \$180m, the two-year project is the last of a series of infrastructure projects which will help to develop the Zambian economy. The railway is only half completed. Trucks can only be half loaded, and the brakes are non-standard. Nevertheless three trains a week are already carrying 600 tons of copper to the sea. The line is flowering along the line of rail.

At Kapiri Mposhi junction the new link joins Zambian railways and connects with the whole southern African network (and trains still cross the Victoria Falls bridge). At Derbent, however, there is a break of gauge. Tanzania links with the East African railways with possible through-running to northern Uganda.

So only one gap is left in a dream first inspired just 100 years ago by Sir Edwin Arnold. The *Light of Asia* was a direct imperial line of communications by rail (and river steamers) between the Cape under British rule and Cairo destined for British domination in Egypt. The dream was the Suez canal in 1875. That gap, between Arua in Uganda and Wau in Sudan, is about 700 miles through tough but not impracticable terrain for rail-builders.

In the high noon of imperialism, the Cape to Cairo was the slogan for Africa. In August 1888 Sir Harry Johnston wrote to *The Times* to propose that Britain should now provide the continent with high Livingstone, Speke and Stanley had opened up, with an "iron backbone" and iron ribs branching off to the east and west coasts.

It is some measure of British self-confidence of 60 years ago that after only 50 years' experience of steam locomotion the idea of a 6,000-mile railway through terrain explored only in outline in the previous 20 years, seemed only to require a prompt start.

But it was late politically. Greg Bright lives up to his name by being able to make a reasonable living out of his "mazes". He considers the one at Hampton Court simple, boring and unimaginative, and has designed what he believes to be the most difficult maze in the world, not being planted on the Marquess of Bath's estate at Longleat.

The Longleat maze, being constructed of 6ft 6in yew hedges, is so bizarre that Bright had to design it in two sections, with an emergency escape route at the end of the first half. Anyone who attempts the second half, says Bright, is really asking for trouble and a lesson in before they see civilization again. Naturally he is keeping the plans secret.

Bright began doodling mazes at the age of six. When he was 15 he took over a former field at Pilton in Somerset and dug a trench maze of astonishing complexity. He has raised mazes designed to a high scientific level, and talks of mutual aggression, control, partial values, and other cunning devices for getting lost. He believes that the original minotaur's maze at Knossos was so easy that Theseus could not possibly have got lost, even without Ariadne's ball of golden string.

Some of Bright's mazes are now on show at the ICA Gallery in The Mall, which is quite easy to find, and visitors are encouraged to try their hand at them. Of one particularly baffling one he was forced to admit that it was a trick: there was no beginning and no end. "I want to take the emphasis off solving and put it on exploration," he explained.

The best mazes, he thinks, whether planted as hedges or simply drawn on paper, are

Germany, Belgium and Portugal were moving to pre-empt the gap between British influence in the north and her colonies in the south, where the Boer republics, booming on gold, were planning to seize central Africa ahead of the field. Johnston's idea was to sign up the "native chiefs" along the line of rail, put them under British protection with self-government on the model of the Indian maharajahs, and replace the slave trade with rail-carried commerce.

Salisbury liked the general idea. Johnston wanted £2,000 to finance his treaty-mongers. Cecil, at the treasury rejected the waste of so much public money on hare-brained schemes. Johnston, however, was introduced to a rich young boudier called Cecil John Rhodes staying at the Westminster Hotel in search of a Bechuanaland concession. They sat up till 3 am planning the Cape-to-Cairo scheme. Rhodes was to get his concession and to sign up the Lbengula and Lewenika in the north. Johnston was to sign up everything southward, possibly including the Mahdi. Rhodes wrote out his cheque for £2,000 as a cab was called for Johnston. "You must tell Salisbury that I'll pay whatever else is needed," he said. "You'll need a considerable amount of money."

Salisbury, anxiously appeasing Bismarck, failed to preserve a common frontier between British East Africa and Rhodes's advancing patrols in Tanganyika. Rhodes was also forced to go to Katanga, which Leopold wanted, and Manica, out of which he had thrown the Portuguese army.

Aggrieved by London's cowardice, Rhodes did not give up. Let there be instead, an Anglo-Belgian Cape-to-Cairo line through the Congo Free State, and let Johnston get the concession. Three times Johnston tried. But he found the Rhodes too different from the visionary of 1838. He was

hemmed in by greedy concessionaires who had no time for autonomous native states sustained by railways.

After Rhodes's death, his Northern Rhodesia line was linked with Katanga and subsequently eastwards to Lobito Bay and (temporarily) northwards by rail and river to Stanleyville. Sir Harry's efforts generated the Kenya-Uganda "lunatic" line, while Johnston took a railway south to Khartoum. But huge gaps remained in the route both east and west of the lakes.

Instead of the spine, the ribs were built—lines from the interior of colonies to the sea, pumping the goodness out of the centre into world trade. At least, that is how African nationalists saw it, when they became conscious. The colonialists had given Africa railways in order to plunder it. Inter-rail links between African states were almost non-existent. Africa is still ambitiously building railways, and so the Uganda-Sudan gap may be filled. The Stanleyville-Wau gap is narrowing. The link with west Africa is also predicted. As with the Tanza, a road has first been built.

Pan-African patriots would like their continent to have an industrial revolution. They would like Africa to revolve more self-sufficiently round an axis of its own, with a growing internal trade like the United States, instead of continuing to be drained to fickle world markets.

The irony is that Tanzania was built not to help Khat Africa, but to reach those neo-colonial markets—and if it fails, or the port system fails, Zambia may face collapse. Yet Tanzania could form part of the network of the future, opening up the centre and increasing inter-regional trade. It is up to Africans to fulfil Rhodes's dream for pan-Africanist ends.

Roy Lewis

The long wait for action to help one-parent families

Most of these families depend on supplementary benefit, which Finer showed is inappropriate to their needs

Most of these families depend on supplementary benefit, which Finer showed is inappropriate to their needs. Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, has made clear repeatedly that she will not introduce the guaranteed maintenance allowance proposed by the Finer committee to give one parent families a benefit of right. She has also stated categorically that no alternative one parent benefit will be introduced until after the new Child Benefit Scheme has had a chance to work. The full scheme will not become operative until 1977, which means that there is no possibility of a specific allowance for one parent families at least until 1978 and most MPs believe it will happen even later.

It is now clear, too, that the one special measure introduced to help one parent families in the interim will help only a minority of them and leave them very little better off. Next April the first or only child in one parent families will be eligible for child benefit, one year before it is extended to all first and only children. The face value of the benefit will be £1.50 a week, but it will be taxed and part of it will be charged back to the parent. The net 62p a week to those one parent families earning enough to pay tax. Mrs Castle's department admits that only 250,000 one parent families will receive the benefit, less than half the total number of those who will be families where the parent earns and therefore pays tax.

Even more worrying, given the increasing evidence that the poverty of one parent families is worsening, is that the Government is not yet committed

to the principle of introducing a new benefit for them. Mrs Castle told Labour backbenchers last week that she was still open on the question and emphasized that the Government had increased existing social security benefits to the tune of £1,000m from which one parent families would have had their share.

But many MPs believe that is not the point, because the social security most one-parent families depend on is supplementary benefit which the Finer Report showed to be totally inappropriate to their needs. Supplementary benefits are supposed to be a short-term thing.

There was a ministerial meeting at Mrs Castle's department in the summer to discuss what kind of benefit might be proposed as an alternative to the Finer model. Among the ideas considered was making a general benefit available on the lines of the widowed mother's allowance. But in the absence of any clear commitment to the principle of a new benefit, such discussions are being interpreted as largely academic.

Pat Heals
Social Services Correspondent

The Times Diary

Meeting the amazing maze man

those which keep the explorer continuously on the move, taking him right back to the beginning when he is within a few feet of the centre. Wrong turnings which lead simply to dead ends he considers a cheat and a waste of time.

His most baffling work at the exhibition is a large mural maze, 20 feet by 14 feet, in seven different colours, with complex rules about which colour you can follow at any particular time. He confessed that he had made a slight mistake while drawing it, and that it is insoluble.

Robbers in the Motor Show. The missing items are not a couple of Moscovits or Bentleys, but ten clearly even more desirable items, bigger, from the stand of the British Cycling Bureau. They were there when the show closed on Saturday night, but gone yesterday morning. I suppose it is hard to stuff a Lancia under your raincoat.

Arms deal

American officials never feel properly dressed in public without a flag and their seal of office. Nelson Rockefeller did not like his vice-presidential seal. What was good enough for Spiro Agnew was not good enough for him.

So an executive order has been promulgated (Carter King take note) decreeing that the Vice-President's coat of

arms should be "palaways of 13 pieces argent and gules, a chief azure upon the breast of an American eagle displayed holding in his dexter talon an olive branch and in his sinister a bunch of 13 arrows grey and in his beak a grey scroll inscribed *e pluribus unum*. Behind and above the eagle a radiant glory or on which appears an arc of 13 cloud puffs grey, and a constellation of 13 multicoloured stars."

When you look at it, the new seal resembles the President's more closely than did the old. The irrepressible language of heraldry seems particularly suited to a bicentennial year, but to hold an olive branch proper in one talon and 13 arrows in the other does seem excessively devious.

Ducky

The other day I mentioned that Fred Mulley, the Labour Party conference chairman, had difficulty deciding how to address women delegates. He called one first "comrade" and then

The unconscious assumption, she says, is that the orientation of women is unpredictable and frivolous and that their unreliability is the cause of the distraction by the application of flannel and soft soap.

She notes that in cattle-obsessed societies there is a similar proliferation of words denoting the colour or texture of cow-birds. She adds that it was another veteran of Labour platforms, Lord George-Brown, who perfected the technique of putting down women in discussion by a witty emphasis on the word "darling".

The variety of terms a female may be called in the course of a day, she concludes, is an ambiguous aspect of male patronage in our society, which is still far removed from viewing a woman primarily as a person. Agreed, deary.

Bath puzzle

As I revealed last month, I am writing—indeed I have nearly finished—the book about my allotment. To get it done, I have been getting up at 6 am and padding downstairs to the typewriter which, to avoid scratching the mahogany dining table, rests on back numbers of *The Guardian*.

When I lack inspiration, my eye sometimes wanders to the text of that newspaper, and yesterday I spotted an article by Alex Hamilton about Andrew Osmond, a novelist. Hamilton described in detail the eighteenth-century authenticity of Osmond's house in Oxfordshire, and added: "The bath is uncompromising."

No further explanation was given, and I have been puzzling all day about what he meant. With what, I wonder, did the



Today's sign, which seems strictly for birds, was photographed in the West of Ireland by Patricia Mackean of Antrim.

both fail to compromise? Was it uncompromisingly eighteenth century, making no concessions to modernity? Or uncompromisingly modern, making no concessions to the eighteenth century? Or uncompromisingly a bath, making no concessions to anything that was not? Or was it a misprint?

For I think it might provide the key to understanding the work of this important author.

Cheap day

Who says rail fares are expensive? On Saturday I took my son (5) to Kempton Park races, and decided to go by train from Clapham Junction, to avoid the tedious drive through Wandsworth and the booking office. At the Clapham Junction, I could buy a combined travel and entrance ticket.

After several minutes of poring over his fare books, the clerk told me that my fare, with entrance to the Silver Ring, would be 94p. My son's fare was 25p, and they did not charge him to go in.

Thus the day out for both of

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R KISSINGER IN PEKING

October is the year's most beautiful month in Peking. The sun, sparkling air and the sunshine will all reinforce Kissinger's feeling, after four years on the shuttle, that this more rewarding capital than Moscow for the engineer of international peace. He relishes the reception and quick intelligence he has enjoyed at the crossing of two different cultures. Peking he has enjoyed the city and charm of Mr Chou En-lai while in Moscow even the outwardly cordial discussion never quite conceal the obvious underlying suspicion. He has the issues in Peking been so immediate or so tractable as those in Moscow. Let the background to the visit Dr Kissinger begins today. Peking may not seem so different from the conditions in Moscow last week. Kissinger, too, has his ailments, clinging on to life and we as if genuine retirement were forbidden by their system. Both capitals the succession unknown and the manner by which it will be determined is outside inquiry. In both countries the shift in international leanings that might flow from a change are open speculation. Moreover, Dr Kissinger's task in preparing the visit for President Ford's visit offers no expectation that Sino-American relations will be taken step or two forward by either visit. There are no plums in an American pie that can be dished out now. The Chinese know this and have not denied themselves some public gestures of impatience. They will carefully receive the American President, though it will not look as if his visit is stripped of all purpose but to gain credit that

will serve him in next year's presidential election. For the Chinese in their current temper any such comparison between Moscow and Peking would seem insupportable. They would deny that Dr Kissinger's visit is in furtherance of détente: it is simply a question of normalizing China's relations with the United States after two decades during which American obduracy and blindness refused diplomatic intercourse. That the relationship with America is important to them the Chinese would not deny. The need for a balance to their expected relations with the Soviet Union was apparent to Chairman Mao and Mr Chou En-lai thirty years ago even before they came to power when they vainly sought an audience with President Roosevelt. If they have had to wait a long time for "containment" to be abandoned and the barriers to come down their motive for these relations remains unchanged. Indeed, their need of the United States as a balance to the Soviet Union is much more important now than then could have been in 1945. Besides this broad calculation of national security that the Chinese look for in the American relationship, there are still items outstanding on the bill unpaid from the years of containment, some of them small but irritating, such as the Chinese assets sequestered in the United States but most of all the continued American backing—as Peking sees it—given by the Americans to a rival government of China in Taiwan. These are not issues of détente for China, nor should they be delicate problems of world peace. They are simply a part of the reparation that China has been seeking ever since the western blows to her sovereignty that began with the Opium War. The

Chinese will, of course, allow that Taiwan remains an awkward problem for the Americans following on the disaster of Vietnam last April. If patience is called for they are not short of the commodity. But still Taiwan is all-important (and will remain so whatever successor to Chairman Mao rules China) and is part of the concessions that were bound to follow from the first moves made under Mr Nixon's presidency to put an end to the fruitless confrontation with China. What is certain is that détente will be prominent in the discussions in Peking. Last night Mr Chiao Kuan-hua repeated the Chinese theme of Russia as the most dangerous source of war, with its dismissal of détente in that quarter as the deception of all Western powers that seek it. The charge is unrelenting and may come to affect China's relations with the United States. Inevitably the mirror image is reflected. Thus Moscow: the Chinese leaders are obviously now giving increasing priority to their foreign policy to relations with the capitalist world. The process of expanding relations between China and the West has gone beyond the bounds of ordinary normalization and has become what is actually an accommodation between China and the principles of nationalism and anti-socialism. This policy is an inevitable development of the Chinese leaders' great-power and hegemonic ambitions. In his speech at last night's banquet Dr Kissinger replied judiciously to the Chinese assertion, deploring "needless confrontation". While he will listen patiently to Chinese warnings he will press his own arguments for following a policy of détente with the Soviet Union as the only sensible and possible one. Sino-American relations ought not to be affected by that policy.

MEDICINE TO CURE NEW YORK'S ILLS

New York City avoided default on its debt repayments by a last-minute reprieve. It is certain that the city will default before the end of the year unless it receives substantial assistance from the federal Government. President Ford continues to resist the assurances on him to help the city and he maintains a default would force New York into the drastic budget-cutting actions that its creditors have for too long linked. The President also maintains that the consequences of default on the financial markets will only be temporary and minor. He is also opposed to the precedent of relieving the Federal Government in the specific financial affairs of a local authority. President Ford might well be using some popularity in the mid-west and west of his country by taking this stern view towards New York City, which has been a popular place for most Americans. But the President is now taking risks which, it would seem, he is not fully aware. Some of the consequences of default are now becoming increasingly clear: services in the city will be endangered, disorder in the streets of the city can no longer be ruled out, municipalities across the country find it much more difficult

to win investors' confidence for their bond issues. New York State, Detroit, Philadelphia, Buffalo and Newark may all discover that their delicate financial position as viewed as being too risky by the markets and they will follow New York City into default. Uncertainty could well increase in other financial markets, so undermining the foreign exchanges, money and share markets; the banks could suffer considerable, although not gigantic, losses and become much more wary of lending, so hindering the now hoped for general economic recovery. The risks are indeed so great that it seems clear that default must be avoided and that federal government assistance now, rather than when default has taken place, is the essential course of action. But the assistance must be in a carefully thought out form, one which enhances the chance of New York returning to a balanced budget and which ensures that a precedent has not been set which might encourage the leaders of other cities to become as profligate and irresponsible in the management of their budgets as New York City's leaders have been. The federal government assistance should best be made in the form of a direct loan, although Congress is likely to prefer

to guarantee a loan, rather than to give the cash itself. The loan should be sufficient to enable New York City to push ahead with a three-year plan to reach a balanced budget without fearing imminent default every few months. That would mean a loan of at least \$5,000m. Most importantly, a system of supervision must be established to ensure that the loan is used properly. Here the Emergency Loan Guaranty Board, established by the Federal Government to supervise loans to the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, could be mobilized. But the key condition must be that specially appointed outside persons be given full authority to run the city's affairs until a balanced budget has been produced. The stripping of elected officials of their power may well be sufficiently punitive to make other elected local officials resist the temptation of going along the route that New York City has taken. To see a giant and magnificent city face default and a most substantial reduction in the quality of life of its eight million citizens, is a tragedy. Unless President Ford acts quickly and thus minimizes the risks of riots and violence in the city following upon default, the story of New York City could be a calamity, with deep and bitter consequences for the whole world.

Friday's leading article and will recall his original amendments: that Lord Carrington and the Conservative peers will support him in insisting on in spite of all Mr Foot's eleven-hour blarney and bluster that the Bill will be kept off the statute book if only for a few more months. But there are other reasons going much wider. The time long ago came when it is necessary for the proper working of the constitution, of Parliament, and even of the electoral system that the House of Lords, as the only second chamber we have, should insist on discharging its duties and functions. Nobody, of course, would busily defend the House of Lords as it is now composed, simply because without fundamental reform it has been allowed to become indefensible so that it cannot easily or respectably assert what powers the Constitution vests in it. Labour Governments have an interest in keeping the second chamber weak and thereby vulnerable to every bully-boy's threat that, unannounced by a democratic people, it will be destroyed. Consequently the House of Lords, even after the Macmillan reforms of life peerages, the admission of women, the renunciation of hereditary peerages, leave of absence, and attendance allowances, is no more than an auxiliary the executive can rely on to initiate legal Bills, revise and amend Bills sent up late from the Commons, and to assist governments in over-legislating. No matter what its anachronistic or modernized composition, it is no more than a biddable agency of government, incapable of providing any protection to the people for lack of will and confidence. With such rare exceptions as the veto on steel nationalization in 1948 and the throwing out of a Rhodesian sanction order in June 1968, the House of Lords may be said to exist only that it may continue to exist. The bicameral system is at an end, precisely at a time when neither of the two main parties coming into government is able to command so much as 40 per cent of the popular vote, and yet once in power in the Commons—both arrogantly assert their democratic right to pursue

David Wood The Lords could stand and fight

One way lies open for beginning this article, as will appear enough. It is to make the assertion that I disagree with leading article in *The Times* on why in which it was argued that much would be gained by the House of Lords pressing the Good amendments and denying the amendment, until next session, the Union and Labour Relations. Let me explain. Between the divisions on the amendments last Wednesday I found myself with a number of experienced trade unionists whose judgment and knowledge I also learn to respect. None of them could believe that the House of Lords would press freedom of the press amendment. I was told in Michael Foot's Bill Lord Goodman's amendments to the House of Lords would be a closed-shop principle. The Editor of *The Times* and the Quaker or Jehovah's Witnesses and claimed religious

undiluted party programmes. The constitutional checks and balances of the second chamber have been removed not by revolution or by the arbitrary exercise of Commons power, but by the acquiescence of the peers, a matter whether the government of the day has an overwhelming remit from the people or represents only the ruling faction of a minority of voters. The theory of Lords submission to the Commons is a party manifesto that all red-haired men would be sent to Broadmoor, or any other nonsense, and the House of Lords will regretfully accept. Conservative peers and Labour peers alike, that the people have spoken and there are no two ways about it. Only red-haired peers would turn up, with dyed hair, to enter a deprecating protest. Yet party manifestos are not only comprehensively untruthful and perhaps unreadable; they have demonstrably become, in recent years, tragic documents. Oppositions, draft prospectuses promising or denying commitments, and are no sooner rewarded with power than they do the opposite. It is the responsibility of office that brings governments back to reality, if they are brought back at all or in time; and it should be the function of the second chamber, preferably reformed yet unreformed if necessary, to use its powers of revision and suspensory veto to allow reality, moderation and the sense of the people to break in upon executives. I therefore not only hope that Lord Goodman and his supporters will stand firm on his original press freedom amendments in the Lords today, because they are right and necessary amendments where no compromise or temporizing may be eventually safe. I also hope that the second chamber, as a whole, unreformed as it is against its own wish, will do for the people what the crude party system no longer can be trusted to do. If they retreat today, as the leader in *The Times* of Friday beckoned, they will lose more than one constitutional cause.

Preserving press freedom

From Mr Philip Whitehead, Labour MP for Derby North
Sir, Mr R. F. Farmer is wrong (October 18) in urging Lord Goodman to the last ditch on the Trade Union Bill. As the mover of one of the Commons amendments to the proposed Charter, may I say that any attempt to reintroduce the legal framework proposed by the original Lords amendments would be unhelpful. It would antagonize the entire Parliamentary Labour Party and make any reasoned discussion of further improvements to the Bill impossible. It would gravely weaken those in the NUJ who have stood up for the principle of a freely negotiated Charter, after discussions between all parties—including the Institute of Journalists. It would transform this delicate matter of negotiation and compromise into a constitutional brawl between Lords and Commons, into which their Lordships would be unwise to enter. We have all learnt a number of lessons as the discussions about the Charter have gone on. If the Institute can hold back from casting its thunderbolts—or getting someone else to do it for them—all have gained from the experience. So will the cause of a free press, and the classical freedoms which it helps to maintain. Yours sincerely, PHILIP WHITEHEAD, House of Commons, October 19.

Growth of patronage

From Mr John Wilson
Sir, Surely Mr Edelman (articles, October 14 and 15) is sliding at the wrong windmill. He mounts an attack on a small stage army of a few thousand whose posts are in the gift of misdeeds and who on his view receive mostly less than £1,000 a year, but he virtually ignores the permanent army of about half a million administrators, clerks, professionals and assorted nabobs who owe their appointment to the Civil Service Commission and whose salaries of up to £17,000 a year from public funds. Presumably he thinks it satisfactory that an interview, sometimes combined with a written examination on an irrelevant subject, should enable people to tramp the corridors of Whitehall and regulate our lives and advise us on the minutiae of our private security for the next 30 or 40 years. If so, I beg to differ. We have now had virtually a century to judge the encroachments of the competition and it is scarcely a balanced picture which we can draw. Besides the effects of a few ministerial appointments pale into insignificance. I am, Sir, your obedient ex-civil servant, JOHN WILSON, 51 Lambholt Road, NW3, October 15.

From Mr C. J. Fell
Sir, And how, pray, is membership of the Commission chosen? Yours sincerely, C. J. FELL, Crown House, Newport, Essex, October 16.

Christian origins

From the Reverend Paul Symonds, S.J.
Sir, Professor Hick's acumen and vision, emerging from his article in your edition of Saturday, October 11, is most encouraging. It was also most refreshing to read his refutation of the idea, at one time considered so important by Christians, that Jesus himself claimed to be divine. Such a claim would be quite incompatible with a true humanity. It is, however, a pity that Professor Hick should proceed from a refutation of Jesus' personal claim to be divine to the denial of his real, objective divinity. The fact is that Jesus was recognized as God after his resurrection. It was then that his disciples understood that the man they had known and loved was in reality God—the eternal, unknowable, incomprehensible God, expressing himself in human terms. And that is how he is known today by those who meet and recognize the Risen Christ and who put their faith, not in a man who lived 2,000 years ago and who had great trust in God, but in God who, 2,000 years ago, lived the life of God after his resurrection. The uniquely Christian contribution to world religious experience is that the essentially transcendent and incomprehensible God is expressed himself in human terms in a total and complete way in one human life; and that, because of the Incarnation, a man can, by faith, share, here and now, in the eternal being of God. If Christians deny the divinity of Jesus Christ, then they are denying the world the peculiar contribution which Christianity has to offer, and they are denying an essential truth about the love of God for men. God chose to live the life of a man in order to teach us that through faith in that man, we can live the life of God. Yours faithfully, PAUL SYMONDS, S.J., Stonyhurst College, Lancashire.

Drafting of Land Bill

From Mr Alan G. Crawford
Sir, In his article on the Community Land Bill, Roger Berthoud names, and tells us a little about the calibre of, the individual civil servants principally involved in cobbling together this Bill. This is a most desirable and important innovation. Since Mr Wilson's Government seem no longer to support the conviction of ministerial responsibility, the practice of civil servant anonymity should cease completely. Yours faithfully, ALAN G. CRAWFORD, Greycoats, Poffley End, Hales, Wiltshire.

The nation and constitutional changes

From Dr William Wallace
Sir, On October 13 Mr Short announced in the House of Commons that the Government hopes in November to publish a further White Paper on devolution. He described this as "the most important constitutional document of this century"—a matter which affects the future and cohesion of the United Kingdom. Yet he did not specify how the Government intends to consult public opinion at large on this vital question; the implication of his remarks is that the parliamentary debate and the representations of established interests would be considered sufficient. Nor did he say how the consequent constitutional changes were to be legitimized. One must assume that an Act of Parliament is thought to be a firm enough foundation for a Scottish Assembly. A year ago, several members of the present Cabinet were arguing that the issue of British membership of the European Communities raised questions of such constitutional importance as to require popular ratification more direct than was provided through Parliament. The Prime Minister himself accepted their arguments, and promoted the European Referendum. On what grounds do he and his colleagues now intend to distinguish between one fundamental constitutional issue and another? Devolution is not the only important constitutional issue which Britain will be facing in the next two or three years. Public subsidies for political parties are already under discussion, which will most probably be arranged to maintain the present two-party system in spite of strong evidence that a substantial proportion of the public no longer accept our current party system, or the electoral system which protects it. Whether we like it or not (and it is evident that our present Government does not like it) the issue of direct

elections to the European Parliament will soon be pressed upon us by our partners in the Community. In a situation where the British Government is asking for a great deal from the European Community and has little to offer them in return, it will be very difficult not to yield to this pressure. Yet I see little sign that the Government has begun to consider how to consult or educate the public on this, or how to ensure that such a further major innovation will be popularly accepted as desirable and legitimate. The Government cannot run away from this fundamental question of legitimacy. It has already embarked upon the process of constitutional change, in introducing the referendum; to pretend now that proposals which are admitted to be as fundamental to our constitutional framework as entry to the Community require only that ratification of Parliament would be to invite public cynicism. To attempt to carry through Parliament a Bill for a Scottish Assembly on the strength of a parliamentary majority for which only 36 per cent of the Scottish electorate voted would be to invite disaster. It is time to admit that Parliament, as at present constituted and elected is inadequate as a basis for legitimizing such constitutional innovations and for both the Government and the Opposition to give due thought to the problem of how to provide that legitimacy—and how to reverse the rising tide of cynicism and apathy which is already weakening popular acceptance of our present political arrangements, and so threatening a yet more fundamental constitutional crisis. Yours sincerely, WILLIAM WALLACE, 73 Claude Road, Chorltonville, Manchester, October 15.

Higher fares or rates?

From Councillor David Blunkett
Sir, As a member of the policy committee of South Yorkshire County Council, I feel it is necessary to comment on some of the points raised in the article "Central control and local choice" which appeared on Wednesday, October 15. The decision of the controlling Labour group on South Yorkshire County Council to hold bus fares at their present level during the financial year 1976-77 is not designed to simply challenge the Government on its policy of curbing local authority spending. As your columnist remarks, education, social services and housing would prove more understandable platforms for such a challenge. Rather, the policy of South Yorkshire Labour Party is part of an overall transport policy, which takes full account of the need to use scarce national resources in the most economical and equitable manner. The transport policy aims to avoid the catastrophic fall in passenger usage which is now being experienced by many bus operators throughout the country, where large fare increases have been introduced in recent months and, instead, to follow the West Midlands County strategy of attracting more people to use public transport. This policy is aimed in the long term to cut the wasteful use of private vehicles in town and city centres, reduce road maintenance and construction costs as well as contributing to the energy saving drive and the improvement of the environment. The policy is in line with the General Election promises of 1974 as well as the local manifesto of the controlling group and the decision

to place the cost of increasing bus operating charges on to rates rather than fares is felt to be the most socially just way of providing an essential service which benefits the community as a whole, and should be funded by the community. Leaving aside the hysterical outcry of those who wince at the very mention of "fare increases", most people will find that placing the economic burden on the whole community is of benefit financially. A 2p rate increase raises over £4m in South Yorkshire, and for a household with a rateable value of £200 this will mean an extra 5p per week. To meet this figure by a fare increase would require an increase on the board fare increase of 4p. If only one member of the household makes two journeys each day for five days each week, the cost would be an extra 40p per week. Industry and commerce will of course benefit from the reduction in bus fares, but the cost in public transport, so it is felt reasonable that they should bear their share of the cost, and meeting the transport costs in this way through a rate increase, achieves this goal. We hope that the central Government will see the wisdom of the original national party policy and help, not hinder, the efforts of Labour politicians in the regions. It is also possible that the review of transport policy promised at this year's Labour Party conference will see a radical change of heart by our colleagues in Westminster. Yours faithfully, DAVID BLUNKETT, 1 Vicarage Crescent, Grenoside, Sheffield, October 15.

'Days of Hope'

From Dr J. M. Rae
Sir, Mr David Boulton (Letters, October 13) cites the case of W. G. Tyrell as evidence of the authenticity of the scene in *Days of Hope* where a conscientious objector is tied to a stake in full view of the enemy's fire. In 1922 the Quaker, John Graham, reported Tyrell's case in his book *Conscription and Conscience*. According to Graham, Tyrell was a conscientious objector who was being punished number one in France when he was tied to a post "within the range of shell fire". Even if what Tyrell claimed was true—and as a conscientious objector reporting on his own treatment by military he was hardly an unbiased witness—it still does not justify the scene in *Days of Hope*. That scene clearly showed a conscientious objector being taken into the front line trenches, pushed over the top and tied to a post in no-man's land. That is very far from being the same thing as undergoing field punishment number one within range of shell fire. I have no doubt that a number of soldiers, including conscientious objectors under military law, were punished in this way within range of shell fire because that phrase covers a very wide area both at and behind the front line. But there is no evidence that any conscientious objector was deliberately exposed to enemy fire in no-man's land as was the clear implication of the

scene in the first part of *Days of Hope*. That scene was used to drive home to the audience the message that British civil and military authorities treated conscientious objectors in a contemptuous and brutal way. The irony is that of all the belated attempts to deal with the problem of conscientious objection to compulsory military service in a tolerant and civilized way, British and Irish practices there certainly were. The clash between the conscientious objector and the military characterized by Gilbert Murray as a conflict between obstinate mules and rampant griffins could hardly have passed off without some stupidity on both sides. But given the intensity of feeling at the time, the government's inexperience of the problem and the provocation offered by the attitude of some conscientious objectors the remarkable fact is that with very few exceptions conscientious objectors were treated strictly according to the law. One does not have to be on the side of the military to wish to see the record put straight. It remains an ungracious question, however, why the BBC allowed the record to be distorted in the first place. I am, Sir, Yours faithfully, J. M. RAE, Head Master, Westminster School, 17 Dean's Yard, SW1, October 15.

'Prestigious'

From Mr Alfred Friendly
Sir, For all its malodorous origins and its ear-grating quality, "prestigious" meets a need and should not be banished from the language despite Philip Howard's downward-turning thumb (*The Times*, October 15). His near synonyms are not quite so objectionable as reporting on a person or institution whose pronouncements pack a special wallop, whose position enjoys a special importance or is safeguarded with a certain aura of respect. Richard Scammon, America's best analyst of voting trends (may an American be forgiven American illustrations), is all of Mr Howard's adjectives, "distinguished, eminent, reputable, important, remarkable", but something more too: When he utters *ex cathedra*, you better pay attention because he is prestigious. The Senior Wrangler at Cambridge and the President of the Harvard

Law Review have prestigious posts as they will happily find in the job market where they are likely to do better than others were merely "distinguished, remarkable", and all the rest. A Nobel Prize winner can get away with murder, as Harold Urey once explained to me, because his honour is prestigious, something different from and additional to all those other adjectives. "Influential" suggests another near-synonym, fails to fit in all cases. Linus Pauling is surely a prestigious fellow, but his influence is rather less than he might like it to be, which may be a good thing. "Distinguished" is no good either, the word having been totally leached of content in my country by the deplorable necessity of every Senator having to apply it on the Senate floor to each of his 99 colleagues, among whom are a significant number of stumblebums. I am, Sir, yours, etc, ALFRED FRIENDLY, 47 Cheyne Place, SW3.

Miscarriage of justice

From Mr Ben Whitaker
Sir, The belated exculpation of two men who had been convicted and sentenced for murder, besides being an answer to those who talk hanker for a return to capital punishment, shows the urgent need for a special new police department whose permanent task would be to reexamine with an open mind any case where the justice of a conviction is in doubt. Righting the wrongful convictions of an innocent person is too serious a matter to be left to the chance of overworked voluntary organizations such as the National Council for Civil Liberties and Justice, or the work of a persistent MP or press campaign; a minimum of errors may be inevitable, but investigating and righting them as speedily as possible should be a national responsibility of the first priority. Nobody should feel they have to dig up a Test match pitch before they can get a case of what they believe to be injustice re-examined. Yours, etc, BEN WHITAKER, 13 Elsworth Road, NW3, October 17.

Compulsory headlights

From Mr Fred Wachsbarger
Sir, I fear that Professor R. J. Berry (October 14) has somewhat missed the object of the proposed legislation on the compulsory use of car headlights. The fact is that a high percentage of drivers seem unaware that electricity is generated free of charge while driving, so that it costs nothing to switch on headlights, let alone sidelights. As one who spends some 25 hours per week driving upon our highways and byways, let me assure him that people do drive at night, in near blackness on side lights only; they still persist, in spite of legislation, to belt down motorways in pouring rain with near zero visibility, with not lights on at all. Let us take any necessary legislation in an entirely different direction. Three quarters of the rules and regulations as set out in the Highway Code could really be covered by honest-to-goodness common sense. What we are in fact doing is legislating for lack of it on the part of drivers. A decent driver knows when to switch on; an idiot has to be told. In the same way that a pilot-to-be has to take an aptitude test before he is allowed anywhere near an aeroplane, it might not be such a bad idea if similar principles were applied to would-be drivers. Accidents do cost this country in the region of £500m per annum, so it really might not be such a bad idea if someone in the DoE used their common sense too in this matter. Yours truly, FRED WACHSBARGER, 192 Western Way, Darras Hall, Ponteland, Northumberland.

Company disclosures

From Lord Carrington and Lord Cullen of Ashbourne
Sir, On October 13 we moved an amendment to the disclosure of information clause of the Employment Protection Bill. The purpose of the amendment was to ensure that information which might be price sensitive, as far as the Stock Exchange is concerned, was not given to trade union representatives unless it was made publicly available. Unfortunately your Parliamentary Report of October 14 makes it appear that our intention was to limit the information to be disclosed. We would, therefore, like to make it clear that this is quite contrary to our frequently expressed view that we are in favour of maximum disclosure to trade unions and the furnishing of good industrial relations provided that price sensitive material is made publicly available. Yours faithfully, LORD CARRINGTON, LORD CULLEN OF ASHBORNE, House of Lords.

Holiday eating habits

From Professor C. H. Dobinson
Sir, Doubtless many thousands of your readers have, like my wife and me, of recent years, taken advantage of "package tours" to get short sunshine holidays abroad. Most of them may have found, as we and friends have found, that in order to get a bedroom with an attached bathroom they have to stay at hotels where meals are monstrous—five successive courses and helpings far too large. This spoils the holiday in two ways: (a) Mentally, every meal time, when one thinks of the world's half-starved millions; (b) Physically, by indigestion and getting overweight. But it would appear that the hotels that cater for British Tourist Agencies and the English firms that organize holiday cruises, are of the opinion that over-eating is an essential for a Britisher's happiness. I am certain that they are wrong and that most of us are not natural gluttons, but would prefer smaller and less expensive meals, with the opportunity to pay extra on such occasions as we might want more. This might slightly reduce the cost of such tours; it would certainly release food for sale elsewhere. But for this to be achieved we need the British Association of Travel Agencies to make it clear in all the sunny lands to which many of us are glad to fly for a short break, that gourmandizing is not the greatest joy of Britishers. May I, Sir, through your columns ask BATA to do this and ask others to support these views? Yours truly, C. H. DOBINSON, Emeritus Professor of Education in the University of Reading, The Old Barn, Sonning Common, Near Reading.

Fed pledge over New York's debts

warned that the financial consequences of a New York City default might not be containable and that the impact on the banking system produced by fear, and unjustified alarm, could be substantial.

The chairmen of the First National City Bank, the Chase Manhattan Bank and the Morgan Guaranty Trust, none of whom is a member of the committee, said a default could give rise to "the possibility of a markedly adverse psychological reaction in the consumer and business sectors of the economy."

"Were that to happen, an enormous downpull on general economic activity would be exerted."

Mr. David Rockefeller, chairman of Chase Manhattan, maintained that all the uncertainty about New York's future had already weakened the dollar and so underlined the fact that a default could have international,

Mr A. W. Clausen, chairman of the Bank of America, stressed that state and local governments account for 14 per cent of the nation's gross national product, and their economic strength was already being undermined by the crisis.

He pointed out that the prospect of default had raised borrowing costs of most other urban centres prohibitively.

25 pc leap in pay of young accountants

Young accountants are earning more than young solicitors and the gap is widening it is reported today in a survey on salaries in accountancy and law published by Accountancy Personnel, the London-based employment agency.

Young men in accountancy are being paid 25 per cent more than at this time last year, the survey says. Starting salaries are often £2,500 for those with good honours degrees, while salaries for those training to be solicitors have risen by no more than 10 per cent over the

Fresh move to settle beet crop dispute

By Hugh Clayton

Talks between farmers and processors about prices for next year's English sugar beet crop broke down last week, after the latter refused to make an unsuccessful attempt to persuade the Government to arbitrate.

Senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture have told the British Sugar Corporation and the sugar beet committee of the National Farmers' Union that they must reach compromise.

The only change in the talks broken down has been a rise in the price of the crop by 80p a ton to £13.92, but that still leaves the growers with a loss of £100 a ton to £150, which the farmers rejected.

The corporation wanted them to cut the price it paid for sugar beet pulp left after processing to £10 a ton to £150, which the farmers rejected.

Egyptian project by Ford

The talks will deal with economic, technical aspects of the project and the costs and volume of production, the reports said.

Finance for the project would be raised by Egyptian investors, Ford and outside interests, and would later be increased to \$240m.

The newspapers said Nasser (Ugry), Egypt's only automobile manufacturer, also planned talks later this week with representatives of the Italian Fiat company, the West German Daimler group, and Poland on possible cooperation in vehicle production.—UPI.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Property: institutions still tread cautiously

A curious ambivalence now distinguishes the attitudes of institutional investors in property. On the one hand, they recognize that future shortages are the all but inevitable consequence of the cessation of new development, and that rents and prices are therefore, over the long-term, going to rise. On the other, they are being very cautious indeed about investing to take advantage of the opportunities so created.

It is easy enough to see why fund managers should be nervous about the outlook for property short-term. Like everyone else in the business they are acutely conscious of the extent to which the market is overvalued by the ruins of the former property empires, the £300m-odd in the embarrased care of Mr Kenneth Cork, who is now talking of forcing it off, care of the Government. In order to give the rest of the industry a chance to pick itself up, and somewhat more kept from collapse by grace of the Lifeboat Committee.

Moreover, there is the unpalatable fact that rents generally are not rising, and that City rents are still falling—with the Stock Exchange asking £13.50 a sq ft and Gateway House believed to be let for £12. And finally there is the fact that the institutions, with past experience to guide them, are profoundly reluctant to tie up a large proportion of their assets in anything as unmarketable as a single building, so that although the agents can accurately report not merely interest but enthusiasm for prime office blocks priced at under £2m, the yield has to be very much more attractive for anything to be sold last week's sale of Minister's head office showed.

Still, the fact that such interest can be generated at all is a measure of the institutions' confidence long-term. The yield on the short-term properties at around 5½ per cent as against almost 15 per cent on War Loan, there is no other interpretation to be put on it. The problem for the industry is that this confidence is going to stay highly selective until the shorter-term problems are sorted out, and may be longer. Some fund managers are now talking in terms of a wholesale swing of the British economy towards manufacturing industry, and that could keep the property world off balance for many years to come.

BP

Will the Bank take a profit?

Burmah shareholders may continue to howl at the portals of the Bank of England, but there is still not the least sign that the Bank has any intention of allowing them to dine off what has now become one of the most unattractive investments of all time—namely a £282m paper profit on an outlay of £175m. The faster the shareholding appreciates, however, the more relevant becomes the question of its ultimate destiny.

On straight investment grounds, there is of course a good case to be made for the Bank to hold on to the holding. Oil shares may have risen at roughly double the pace of the industrial sector this year, but BP earnings, which were down to around 50p a share for 1975, are commonly expected to rise to well over 200p a share in the medium-term on the back of the North Sea and Alaska.

It may be, however, that the Government would prefer to see the tidying-up of a situation in which its own holding is just



Sir David Brown, chairman of Vespene Thorneycroft, one of the few shipbuilding companies whose shares are close to indicated nationalization terms.

over 48 per cent and the Bank's just over 20 per cent—though with the Government's effective voting control still held at under 50 per cent. In this case, there would appear to be two possible solutions. One would be a straight placing, or even secondary offering, though the size of the operation—some £400m plus—would almost certainly require overseas participation. The other, depending on whether or not BP wished to expand its equity base, would be a part placing followed by a rights issue in which the Government cum Bank would allow its residual shareholding to be diluted back below the 50 per cent mark.

Nationalization

No champagne at this launch

Swan Hunter found that pro-forma nationalization compensation would provide a safety net for its share price after last week's disclosure of problems over the Swan Maritime order book. Indeed the market is presently applying some very sensible discounts to the national compensation values on the basis that these could be open to revision in the light of the dismal shipbuilding situation.

The Swan price now stands at 62p against an average 6-month share price of 97p (for the reference period of February, 1974) or the 96p estimated by brokers McAnally, Montgomery on a going concern basis with assets at market values. Elsewhere the discrepancies are even more marked. Robt Caledon stands at 23p against a reference period price of 97p, and Hawthorn Leslie at 32p against the reference price of 85p.

Steel nationalization provided a precedent for the downgrading of proposed compensation on the reintroduction of the enabling legislation, and in the light of changed conditions. The Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill is scheduled to be introduced in the next session of Parliament and, of course, conditions have deteriorated rapidly since nationalization was mooted in 1973. There is a world surplus of commercial shipbuilding capacity and a dearth of orders, a situation reflected in engine building and shiprepairing too.

In Swan Hunter's case, Swan Maritime orders represent an estimated two-thirds of the total book, and with the Japanese nibbling away at the smaller end of the market, any question mark over the £5m commitment must suggest the injection of public funds, at least if any form of nationalization is to be maintained. In that case, nationalization compensation will presumably be adjusted to take account of a force majeure situation.

For Hawthorn Leslie and Richardson Westgarth there is a resumption of repair work, and the North Sea offers some prospect of work substitution. However, the shares are discounting some lean times ahead and perhaps even assuming that smaller groups like this might yet slip through the nationalization net.

Vespene Thorneycroft and Yarrow are in a very different situation because of the military vessels orientation and the sharp price in each case is abreast of indicated compensation. Arguably the reference price well underestimates the going concern value of both, though it is also arguable that the nationalization threat will blight the overseas order situation. The longer it is delayed therefore, the worse for shareholders. It is very much the interest of these two, and probably Vickers too, to argue compensation on the strength of the present order book, though definitely not so with the commercial shipbuilders.

Depreciation

NEDO wants full provision

Whereas the Sandilands Committee was prepared to play down the question of "backlog depreciation", the NEDO clearly regards it as being of crucial importance. The question now is whose counsel will prevail with the Government. This affects not only the inflation accounting principles that are ultimately applied but also attitudes towards the provision of new capital, public or private, to the manufacturing sector.

NEDO's argument was illustrated in a paper presented recently to Treasury officials and others at the Royal Economic Society. An asset originally costing £80 would cost £155 to replace if inflation is at an annual rate of 25 per cent assumed over a period of four years. Conventional straight-line depreciation would accumulate £80 in that period and that rises only to £144 if the annual depreciation figure is adjusted upwards by the rate of inflation—i.e. 25 per cent.

From this NEDO argues the need for a "replacement fund" to make good the difference between "partial" and "full" depreciation. This will probably require new money, as the Government is applying depreciation to current profits could penalize them unduly, even assuming they were adequate to cover it. NEDO rejects the argument that the reinvestment of depreciation provisions in early years necessarily generates sufficient interest income to reduce the need for a replacement fund. This has not happened in the past and current rates of inflation render it impossible to find investments yielding sufficient to maintain capital values.

The backlog depreciation argument verges on the metaphysical at times, like so many aspects of inflation accounting, but it is hard to argue with NEDO's basic contention that United Kingdom manufacturing investment has declined both in domestic terms and relative to international levels, at a time when United Kingdom inflation has outpaced that elsewhere.

Moreover, as much of this year's rights issues responses have been applied to making good the ravages of inflation on working capital and reducing borrowings, it is hard to see the market supplying the further substantial funds that NEDO suggests are now necessary even to maintain fixed assets. And whether the Government is in any position to contribute to the requirement, at a time when the public sector looks likely to preempt an increasing share of national resources, is also open to question.

Last week in these columns I suggested that, although many institutional investors were continuing to show extreme lack of enthusiasm about the suggestions from the Governor of the Bank of England and his industrial adviser, Sir Henry Benson, that they should play a more effective part in solving the financing problems of industry, more of them were coming reluctantly to the conclusion that banking voluntarily with Benson was better than banking compulsorily with Benson.

On Wednesday, the chairman of the British Insurance Association was able to announce that the process had gone sufficiently far for representatives of all the main institutional investors to join a working party to examine the possibilities of banking, if not with Benson, at least with England.

The underlying motives are a combination of a growing recognition that our capital financing system as a whole has not been fully meeting the needs of manufacturing industry and a desire to take the initiative in finding

remedies out of the hands of Lord Ryder of the National Enterprise Board. Little or nothing has been achieved in the years since Lord O'Brien mooted ideas in this general area and the months since Mr Richardson appointed an industrial adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England.

Sending a two-man deadline for the working party on whether, and if so how, savings can be channelled as equity investment to companies with temporary problems should have the effect of clearing people's minds wonderfully. Until this point, the exercise had not got much further than the potential parties to any such arrangements making long formal statements on the difficulties.

The difficulties should not be underestimated. They come from the fact that what is being proposed overturns in principle the whole basis on which bankers and investors have behaved and, more importantly, been judged under a particular system in Germany, France, or Japan, for different

historical reasons, the performance of the financial sector has been closely related to the performance of the industrial sector of the economy. In Japan this is a reflection of a coordinated and disciplined society. In Germany it is because, from the Great Depression onwards, the banks have had the dominant shareholding in most of the industries that count. In France it is because the rationing industry is tightly and centrally controlled by the Bank of France. And so on.

Our system has expected the financial part of the equation to be judged by itself. In the past 10 to 15 years this has been reflected in the view that the activities of groups like Slater, Walker have been more important, interesting and effective than ordinary industrial management. Under trust investments trust and pension fund managers have been subjected (or have subjected themselves) to the pressure to perform better than their competitors, usually in the shorter term.

Any financial professional, operating in this environment, is bound to see the suggestion that for reasons of some greater good, he should sanction the diversion of part of the funds under his control to purposes which are clearly not likely to produce a reasonable return. Additionally, in the case of those responsible for pension or other similar "trust" monies, there is the pressure, indeed legal requirement, on a trustee to use funds only for the direct purposes for which they have been subscribed.

In the narrowest sense, actuarial pension funds are likely to start raising eyebrows and drafting notes of qualification, if substantial sums of money are diverted in the direction of the Bigland/Benson equity fund. If, therefore, this latest initiative is to go off the ground, even on the narrow basis now being discussed, it will be essential that the widest possible range of institutions become involved. Only if so little is asked of so many will the thing see the light of day.

Asking a little of many for the good of industry

Hugh Stephenson

Sandilands: considering the sense and nonsense of asset values

In his article in *The Times* of September 18, Mr Martin Gibbs, subsequently supported with variations by Messrs Godley and Cripps on October 1, and by Peter Jay on October 16, represented that companies benefited from indebtedness under inflation and that this benefit should be shown in whole or in part in representations of company profitability. The argument can be developed from the simple proposition that any entity buying an asset for £1,000 of borrowed money will gain if inflation (or any other cause) makes the asset increase in value beyond £1,000.

If the asset increases to £1,500 the possessor, if he sold the asset and paid off the bank overdraft, would stand with a clear gain of £500. Clearly, in the sense of change in wealth, the individual has enjoyed an "income" of £500 over the period in question.

We do not think, however, that this has any generally useful bearing on representations of corporate profitability. The reason for this conclusion is simply that if we were to shift to a "change of wealth" definition of corporate profitability, supposed asset values as represented in company balance sheets would be irrelevant to it. As a consequence the conclusions as to net change in wealth under indebtedness could be entirely different from those resulting from manipulation of balance sheet asset values.

For those who are understandably weary with technical intricacies, this point can be illustrated very simply by taking any supposed gain from indebtedness in an actual context. Consider the case of a cash-and-carry business trading wholly for cash making £200,000 profits after interest and whose only tangible asset is the warehouse from which it operates. (For ease of demonstration tax is ignored.) This may be assumed to have been purchased for £1m which half was equity, half long-term debt.

Assume the business is sufficiently attractive to warrant this investment so that its value derives from what can be got for it as such business operation. As such this might make the business worth £2m in the sense that any well advised investor would pay this sum for it if the investor is looking for a 10 per cent return on the type of business at existing interest rate levels.

Assume now that inflation supervenes at 20 per cent with all its usual side effects of price control, fall in real incomes and rising interest rates, etc. The effect of narrowing margins, falling volumes, etc. on the cash-and-carry business may reduce its profits to £150,000, while higher interest

rates which investors can get elsewhere might now make the operation worth only £1m even in money which has been devalued by the 20 per cent inflation. Initially the proprietor had a company worth £2m of the previous year's money or £2.4m in current money. Since he now has only £1m, his change in wealth is obviously minus £1.4m. It is this number which should be represented in the accounts if we seriously intend to represent income as change in wealth.

On the historic cost accounting basis the company's profits would have been simply the £150,000 cash margin. Assume, however, that there is now a revaluation of the warehouse and that it is discovered that its open market value has increased from £1m to £1.25m. This means that the proprietor could, if he chose, close down the business, sell off the warehouse for this sum, pay off the indebtedness and stand with a gain of £250m. On these grounds it may seem that the £0.25m might be included in the company's profits to make them total £1.40m.

But what conceivable meaning is to be attached to this sum? It is certainly not the change in wealth since we have seen this to be minus £1.4m. It cannot represent a gain which shareholder or company would be prepared to pay £0.25m to bring about. For the cash-and-carry business as an ongoing operation is still worth £1m and breaking it up to realize the warehouse would bring in only £0.75m after repaying the £0.5m debt.

What conceivable meaning then is to be attached to the gain of £0.25m which would arise if the company adopted an entirely different policy from that which it is in fact pursuing (namely, going into liquidation rather than carrying on)?

To represent that the company's profits in any useful sense are increased by £0.40m on the basis of a gain from an option the company has no intention of pursuing (and which would indeed make the proprietor's position even worse) while the historic cost profits have fallen by £150,000, is a manifest absurdity. The valuations attached to assets in the case of industrial and commercial companies may be historic cost, current market value or replacement cost. Changes in any of these values are necessary consequences whatever with the change in wealth as the previous example showed. In general terms, if we are dealing with an asset that has a virtually infinite physical life, the change in its market value proves nothing as to betterment of the equity shareholder.

Where we are dealing with fixed assets needing replacement, an increase in their replacement value may or may not be detrimental to the position of the company and shareholders since it represents an increase in costs.

Godley and Cripps's proposal

is that profit should be defined as on the Sandilands basis but as the percentage "normal" percentage of borrowing applied to the increase in shareholders' interest. In our example this would involve the proprietor borrowing 50 per cent of the £0.25m increase in the value of the warehouse, that is £125,000 and calling this profit. This is obviously absurd since there is no increase in future earnings to meet the interest or debt repayments. Presumably Godley and Cripps propose to overcome this by assuming (as

A. J. Merrett and Allen Sykes

in their November, 1974, articles in these columns) that borrowing by a company confers an automatic right to extract the resultant interest paid from a company's customers. It is really necessary to explain that now companies improve their position by increasing their revenues or cutting their costs, not by rowing on the basis of book-keeping entries which are relevant to neither?

These conclusions as regards the existing assets of the company seem fairly self-evident and only cease to be so when we become so bemused by book-keeping arithmetic that we lose sight of the fact that book-keeping is supposed to reflect economic reality and not be a substitute for it.

Turning now to increases in a company's asset values arising from stocks. These arise in the form of the so-called "holding gains" or stock appreciation which occur when the replacement cost of stocks increases. How this arises can be seen in the case of a tax company which keeps a stock of one year's use of diesel oil at an initial cost of £1,000. If the diesel oil price now increases so that it costs £3,000 to replenish the supplies, historic cost accounting would have charged the profit and loss account with £1,000 (the historic cost of the oil used during the year) and shown an increase in the value of its stock of oil of £2,000.

In other words, the £3,000 expended would be regarded as creating a "capital asset" of £2,000, and therefore only £1,000 would have been deducted from the profit and loss account. The Sandilands Committee effectively argues for deducting £3,000 from the profit and loss account—that is, treating the whole of the increase in cost due to inflation as a current expense.

The assets of the company as a catalogue of the market value of its physical assets will, nevertheless, have increased by £2,000 since it now has £3,000 of oil, not £1,000, in the tank. The Sandilands Committee recommends that this "gain"

be shown as a "holding gain" accruing to the equity shareholders (ie, the equity interest of the shareholders, as a matter of book-keeping, is increased by £2,000).

If we went to argue that the £2,000 is in fact a "gain" to the equity shareholders in the sense of having the same value to them as £2,000 cash in their hands, we have to get into some quite sophisticated argument about the impact of inflation on companies' future revenues and costs, and show that the £2,000 will produce future earnings of £2,000. But, the increase in the oil price may have severely damaged the margins earned by our hypothetical haulage company so that at the same time as it is spending more money to stay in business, its volume of business and margins are declining.

As far as these complex economic and financial issues can be summarized, it really amounts to the following. Just what expenditure by companies as individuals are regarded as capital is already a precarious series of conventions which involves many expenditures such as those on research and development, advertising, etc., not being treated as capital although they often undoubtedly create very valuable financial assets in the shape of new products, brand names, etc.

The general principle behind treating some expenditures as capital has been there being presumptive evidence that the expenditure in question would enhance the future financial position of the spender. Such presumptive evidence would be afforded by a company voluntarily, under stable prices, spending more money to increase the physical size of its plant or stocks. The presumption of stock appreciation which occurs when the replacement cost of stocks increases, is purely optional on the part of the company since it can normally perfectly well go on at the existing level of real output if it chooses without detriment to itself. Moreover, under stable conditions, it might be expected to be able to forecast the future reasonably well so that the expenditure is indicative of the company expecting to recover the capital and a stable return.

The curious characteristic of inflation is that it makes any such inference untenable. The alternative to not expending money to maintain the physical scale of the plant and volume of stock is to see the company wound down into dissolution. With inflation proceeding at 25 per cent such a winding down would indeed be very rapid if the company chose the option of simply refusing to expend more money simply to meet the cost, whatever it might be, of maintaining the existing physical scale of activity as the cost of replacement goes up.

Thus, the expenditure to meet the inflationary increase in the cost of maintaining the existing fabric of the business is not a voluntary expenditure to bring about an enhancement

of the company's future prospects but a necessity if any future prospects at all are to be preserved. If the company goes beyond this level of expenditure and increases the scale of its plant and stocks, we can revert to the old argument for treating such expenditures as capital since they are not necessary to maintain the existing fabric of the business. They are, therefore, voluntary and presumably undertaken in the expectation of future commensurate benefits.

In other words, there is a perfectly sound case within the logic of what represents capital and what does not for differentiating between expenditures to increase the physical scale, and expenditures required to meet the increased cost of maintaining physical scale under inflation.

The alternative of arguing that both are equally likely to be productive of future benefit to the company would lead us to the manifest absurdity that any industry should welcome inflation in the cost of replacing its assets on the grounds that this would provide the industry with a painless opportunity to "invest" more money simply in replacing assets. The industry will thus be spared the tedium and effort involved in increasing its real physical scale but reap all the benefit in terms of enhanced profitability simply from replacing its assets at higher costs than hitherto.

Shareholders should rejoice whenever they hear that the replacement cost of their company's assets has risen and should be active in search of those industries likely to show the highest rate of inflation in such costs since these will be the ones that will show the most rapid expansion. It hardly needs to be pointed out that this is economic nonsense and that companies and shareholders should regard increases in replacement cost with the greatest apprehension.

The heart of the matter is that if Mr Gibbs and other proponents of CPP wish to argue that the position of shareholders is enhanced by the increase in the asset value financed by borrowed money, they have got to demonstrate the economic mechanism by which increased asset values generate increased future cash flows, thus bringing about an enhancement of the shareholders' position.

We have frequently urged the proponents of these views to explain how their method comes to give results which depend upon an economic mechanism without their specifying what that economic mechanism is. We have never been able to elicit any explanation of this feat of intellectual levitation. Presumably this has also applied to the Sandilands Committee, which has rejected the same proposal with considerable forcefulness.

A. J. Merrett is professor of finance at London Business School; Allen Sykes is a director of P & O Energy.

Business Diary in Europe: French target for Communists

For all its power in Europe, the Franco-Belgian group, Empain-Schneider, seems powerless in the face of the Vietnamese communists.

Through French diplomatic channels, Empain-Schneider has heard that its company, Indo-Chinese Distilleries, at Cholon, near Saigon, has been taken over by South Vietnam's new regime, and that the local director—plus his wife and three French members of his staff—are under detention following the director's refusal to sign a transfer of the Cholon distillery to the provisional revolutionary government.

Protests—principally via the French embassy in Saigon—have, of course, been made. Empain-Schneider conceals these strong-arm tactics. Yet it was obvious that the 74-year-old Indo-Chinese Distilleries would be a target of South Vietnam's new rulers.

In 1956, after the last French forces had quit Indochina, the Hanoi government nationalized the North Vietnamese property of Indo-Chinese Distilleries, and apparently Empain-Schneider is still fighting with Hanoi over compensation labelled "indemnity for eviction".

But, despite the loss of its North Vietnamese assets, what Indo-Chinese Distilleries possesses in South Vietnam was considerable and this is what the communists are now after.

According to the most recent figures, crops from Indo-Chinese

Distilleries' huge rice fields in the south were yielding about 3,300,000 gallons of alcohol annually.

New Allianz

The European presence in the London insurance market continues to grow. Allianz, Germany's biggest insurer and one of the biggest groups in Europe, will begin garb and aviation underwriting in the market for the 1976 account, following its admission to associate membership of the Institute of London Underwriters. This will be done through Allianz International Insurance, a subsidiary of Allianz Versicherungs, the Munich-based parent.

Allianz International Insurance was in fact established in London last year with W. H. Faher (Underwriting Management) acting as managers and underwriting various classes of business, though with the notable exception as yet of marine and aviation.

Allianz has had a cooperation agreement with the Commercial Union group in London since 1962 and has subsidiaries, branches, agencies or cooperation agreements throughout the whole of Europe, and beyond, now.

Ambitious brief

Professor Karl Schiller, the former West German Economics and Finance Minister,



Karl Schiller: new goal.

has taken on a new job. He is now working in Hamburg as the head of the economics department of the Axel Springer press and publishing group.

Although no longer at the centre of power, Professor Schiller has a very characteristic brief. It has been reported that his main concern will be world economic problems and his goal will be to help solve them.

Schiller resigned from his "Superministry" of economics and finance in the summer of 1972 after one of the more memorable political rows of post-war German history.

After leaving office he became president of a Luxem-

bourg-based investment company active in central and South Africa.

Bath time

If the Herrema kidnap reaches a happy conclusion, and his captors decide to cut their losses and release him for a ransom, then the undoubtedly multi-national Akzo will be in a position to pay. But as Akzo's finances stand at present, it will put a further strain on their present liquidity problem.

The employees of Kunij, which like Herrema's firm Ferencik is part of Akzo's Erka Glanzstoff division, set up a neat exhibition of synthetic bath tubs outside Erka's head office last week in protest against the threat of closure. The firm needs another £1,300,000 investment in the next two years to complete the switch of production from tubing to bath tubs and the like.

Enka is demanding £750,000 from the Dutch government on the grounds that the parent company simply does not have the means to finance the changeover. The remainder would, they hope, be floated by a provincial development fund.

Pullman eye

In the middle of last week, the transient American population of Paris was swollen considerably by the arrival in town of a host of senior executives from Pullman Incorporated. The men

from Chicago were there to hold their first board meeting in France and to establish closer links with the French at a reception at the capital's Ritz Hotel.

Pullman, which started out in business over a century ago building railcars and sleeping cars for America's burgeoning railroads, is one of those American conglomerates whose subsidiaries are perhaps more familiar than the parent. The group is at present seeking to redress that situation through an expensive advertising campaign.

The group's activities today embrace transportation equipment, engineering and construction and transport leasing on a world-wide scale. In the crushed reception at the Ritz, Pullman president, Samuel B. Casey, Jr, found himself being rotated and moved on by eager aides all anxious that he should meet with another group of faces constantly thrust before him. Casey was as keen as his colleagues to draw attention to the fact that the group has an office in Moscow and in Peking and both are doing good business, with the Peking branch producing rather more in the way of firm orders for chemical plants.

Was the group meanwhile looking for further acquisitions in Europe, we wanted to know. Well, said Casey, there were some "interesting situations" on which Pullman had its corporate eye.

LOCKWOODS FOODS

Further progress in a difficult year

Salient points from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. Philip B. Lockwood.

- An ordinary dividend of 3.003p is proposed which is the maximum permitted.
- The improved results are accounted for by substantial improvements in sales of Canned Fruits and Vegetables. In the U.K. demand for most of our products has remained strong and forward sales are good. Fears that rapid inflation would affect consumption have not so far materialised.
- We are now starting to reap the benefits from our investment in Plant for the Carbonated Drinks, helped by the hot summer weather but to some extent curtailed by slow deliveries of Cans.
- I am unable to report any substantial improvement in prospects for the Canned Meat Trade except in Holland where we have improved sales and profitability.
- There has been a substantial improvement in cash flow but we are keeping capital expenditure to the minimum.
- Because of the uncertainty which inflation causes I am unable to make any prediction as to the outcome of the current year, but I am confident that in the long term our established position in the Canning Industry and diversification into Freezing and Carbonated Drinks will enable us to develop progressively and profitably.

GROUP SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1975	1974
Profit before Taxation	2000	£000
Provision for Net Taxation	1,683	1,149
Profit after Taxation	757	503
Earnings per Ordinary Share	826	646
	14.58p	10.98p

Copies of the full Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Lockwoods Foods Limited, Long Sutton, Spalding, Lincs. PE12 9EQ.

Too early to sit in judgment on the soyabean meal futures market

[illegible]

Vacant

1 VACANCIES

YOU NEED
ANAL ENGINEERING
STAFF?

men you want to employ will be
ENGINEERING VACANCIES
OCTOBER 23, 1975.

company is amongst those who are
unique opportunity of attracting their

your space now. Ring
IES APPOINTMENTS TEAM
01-578 9161 or
Manchester: 061-834 1234.

BOOK PUBLISHING

A rare opportunity if you're
young, gifted and
inexperienced.

You are a bright, resilient
and ambitious graduate, in-
terested in book publishing, but
frustrated by prospective
employers who seem to need
the practical experience of sub-
stantiating which you haven't got,
rather than the talent which
you know you have.

We are a publisher in Central
London, and we need someone
for a new position. You are
more concerned to find the
right person than the right
experience.

Send us a resume and an ap-
plication form, with a good
letter to Box 1279 S, The
Times.

**JUNIOR EXEC.
LONDON**

Good opportunity for 18/
20-year-old with O/A levels to
join sales/marketing dept. of
major international firm.
On-the-job training leading to
Management career. Starting
salary £12,500.

Phone Paul Castello, 353
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**CLA MANAGEMENT
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Efficient and reliable Sec-
retary required with legal ex-
perience and staff at all levels.
Salary to be paid to the right
person. Please send resume to
Paul Castello, 353 9183.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

COMMERCIAL CONVEYANCING. A
firm of 100 years standing
offering salaries of up to £9,500
per annum for legal secretaries
and clerical staff at all levels.
Please send resume to Paul
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ALANGLAND Legal Staff. The special-
ist in legal secretarial services
for law firms and solicitors.
We are looking for experienced
legal secretaries and clerical
staff at all levels. Please send
resume to Alan Glendon, 353
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SALES AND MARKETING

SALES AFRICAN. Sales Executive for
London. Salary £5,000 per annum.
Please send resume to Paul
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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

BRASENOSE and WORCESTER COLLEGES,
OXFORD

The Colleges propose to elect a

TUTOR IN LAW

with effect from 1 October, 1976, or such earlier date
as may be practicable. The person appointed will be an
Official Fellow of Brasenose and a Lecturer of Worcester.
A University (CUF) Lectureship will be associated with
this appointment.

Applications are invited from both men and women
and should be sent to the Senior Tutor of Brasenose with
details of career and publications and the names of three
references not later than 15 November, 1975. Further
particulars may be obtained from the College Secretary.

The University of Papua
New Guinea
(Port Moresby)

LECTURER/SENIOR
LECTURER IN
AMBULATORY MEDICINE

Applications are invited from
qualified medical practitioners
with experience in ambulatory
medicine to join the staff of
the Ambulatory Medicine Unit,
University of Papua New Guinea,
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University of Rhodesia
DEPARTMENT OF
GEOGRAPHY

SENIOR LECTURESHIP/
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Based at Headquarters, Beverley:

Chief Assistant Architect

£5,103 to £5,721

Qualified, registered Architect, preferably R.I.B.A. with
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required by the County. To be responsible to the
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works and to act in his capacity in his absence.

Architect PO1 (3-7) £4,922 to £5,577

Preferably R.I.B.A. with several years' experience, capable
of acting as Job Architect under the general supervision
of the Principal Architect for projects of any size and
directing assistants working on such projects.

Architect SO2-PO1 (1-5) £4,689 to £5,250

Preferably R.I.B.A. with several years' experience after
qualifying, capable of acting as Job Architect under the
general supervision of the Principal Architect and assist-
ing on other projects when required.

Architect APS-SO1/2 £3,825 to £4,992

Preferably R.I.B.A. to assist on projects and act as Job
Architect on smaller projects. Applications will also be
considered for these posts from persons holding R.I.B.A.
Final Part II examination and wishing to obtain suitable
professional experience in order to qualify.

Architectural Technicians T1-T5 £1,215 to £4,095

To assist with professional staff on all projects. The
posts commanding the highest salaries within the grade
are for qualified technicians with considerable experience
of the type of work involved.

Reimbursement of removal costs and assistance towards
disturbance expenses up to a maximum of £400 may be
available in accordance with the Council's Scheme.

Application forms available from County Architect,
County Hall, Beverley, North Humberside. Please return
in an envelope marked Confidential-ApPOINTMENT.

**Humberside
County Council**

University of Oxford
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OF THE
INTERPRETATION
OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

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Professorship of the Interpre-
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will be held on 20 September
1976.

The electors intend to pro-
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MOTOR CARS

1972 MERCEDES
280SE 3S

Maroon with cream interior.
280SE 3S. 1972. 1972. 1972.
280SE 3S. 1972. 1972. 1972.

280SE 3S. 1972. 1972. 1972.
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